

This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

#### Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + Refrain from automated querying Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

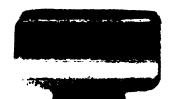
#### **About Google Book Search**

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at http://books.google.com/



H·H·THOMAS

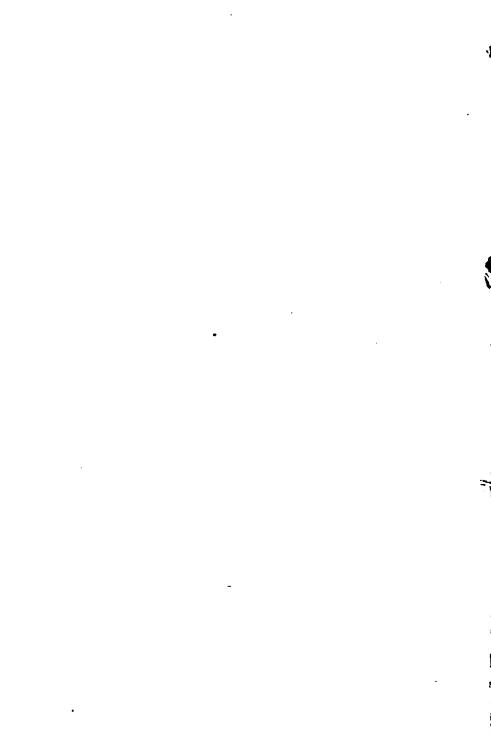






# THE LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

PRESENTED BY
PROF. CHARLES A. KOFOID AND
MRS. PRUDENCE W. KOFOID





# By the Same Author

GARDEN PLANNING AND PLANTING

GARDENING DIFFICULTIES SOLVED

SWEET PEAS AND HOW TO GROW THEM

LITTLE GARDENS: How to Make the Most of Them.

CASSELL AND CO., LTD., LONDON, E.C.





AN (DEA) COTTAGE GARDIN, THE CREEPER ON THE WALL IS MODINTAIN CLEMATIC.

(From a mater colour or along the Clear of Endown)

AN IDEAL COFTAGE GARDEN. THE CREEPER ON THE WALL IS MOUNTAIN CLEMATIS.

(From a water colour drawing by Charles E. Flower.)

# THE IDEAL GARDEN

BT

### H. H. THOMAS

Editor of "The Gardener," Author of "The Rose Book,"

# WITH SIXTEEN COLOURED PLATES AND NINETY-SIX ILLUSTRATIONS FROM PHOTOGRAPHS

FOURTH EDITION

CASSELL AND COMPANY, LTD.

London, New York, Toronto and Melbourne
1914

SB 753 T36 1914

## PREFACE

Gardening is the most delightful of all recreations, since it allows each of its followers to set up his own ideals and in his own way to strive for their attainment. The ideal garden is an expression of the highest hopes of the gardener. Ideals that are close to his heart are materialised in the flower groups that have found form and made progress under his direction. They are cherished because the way of achievement led across the stepping stones of disappointment and disillusion. They represent hours of real pleasure spent among the flowers, hours that, living only as happy memories, have forged links binding season to season in a chain of treasured thoughts.

"The Ideal Garden" attempts to show how a fabric may be raised that shall be worthy of the gardener's conception. It is concerned first with bringing to the reader's notice plants and flowers that are indispensable to a perfect garden. Attention is directed to some of the by-ways of garden planting, in the belief that a greater measure of delight will be found there than on the well-worn

highway that has been traversed again and again. Finally "The Ideal Garden" takes the reader for "a peep behind the scenes" during autumn and spring, the two great gardening seasons of the year. Six months' work in the outdoor garden is passed in review and an explanation is given of those practical details that seem chiefly to mystify the amateur.

The author's acknowledgments are due to Miss Dunham for suggestions embodied in the plans for flower borders and to Mr. W. Easlea and Mr. W. Dallimore for help in preparing the lists of roses and the notes on pruning shrubs. The illustrations are chiefly from my own photographs.

H. H. T.

February, 1910.

# **CONTENTS**

# PART I

	AMONG THE FLOW	ÆRS				
CHAPTER						PAGE
I.	THE OGRE OF DOGMATISM	•	•	•	•	1
II.	GARDEN PLANNING	•	•	•	•	8
III.	A CHAT ABOUT ROSES .	•	•		•	16
IV.	THE PAVED GARDEN .				•	46
V.	FRAGRANT LEAVES AND FLOW	/ERS		•		54
VI.	A GARDEN OF HEATHER.			•	•	58
VII.	GARDENING IN WALLS .	•	•		•	63
VIII.	THE DUTCH GARDEN .		•	•	•	72
IX.	FOR AND AGAINST BEDDING (	Our		•	•	75
X.	OCTOBER LEAVES AND FLOWE	RS	•.	.•	•	79
XI.	RHODODENDRONS AND AZALEA	s	•		•	84
XII.	A ROCKERY BORDER	•			•	88
XIII.	LILAC TIME	•	•	•		92
XIV.	Trees in the Garden .	•	•			96
XV.	THE FLOWER BORDER .	•		•		112
XVI.	GLOAMING IN THE GARDEN	•		•		116
XVII.	PATHS AND THEIR MARGINS					119
XVIII.	ALL ABOUT THE CLEMATIS		•			126
XIX.	FLOWER BEDS ON LAWNS.					131

<b>v</b> iii		CO	NTE	NTS	}				
CHAPTER				_					PAGI
XX.	WILD FLO	WERS	Wor	TH G	ROW	ING	•	•	130
XXI.	A GARDEN	OF I	LOWE	ers fi	ROM	Seed	•	•	14:
XXII.	THE BRICE	. Wa	LL BE	AUTIF	TUL	•	•	•	148
XXIII.	FLOWER A	SSOCI	ATION	s.		•	•	٠.	15
XXIV.	Dahlias P	OR A	Dispi	AY IN	TH	e Gai	RDEN		167
XXV.	ALPINE FL	O <b>WE</b> R	S IN	A Coi	ъG	REENI	iousi	E .	172
XXVI.	CARNATION	S ALI	. THE	YEAR	Ro	UND	•		176
XXVII.	THE SHRU	BBERY	Bor	DER		•	•	•	189
XXVIII.	XXVIII. SWEET PEAS FROM JANUARY TO NOVEMBER							ER	195
		10	ART	**					
		_							
	A PEE	P BE	HIND	THE	SCE	NES			
XXIX.	October	•	•	٠.	•	•	•	•	208
XXX.	November	AND	DECE	MBER			•		219
XXXI.	January.	•	•	•	•	•	•		226
XXXII.	FEBRUARY	•	•	•	•	•	•		234
XXXIII.	MARCH .	•	•			•			237

XXXIV. HARDY PERENNIALS FOR THE FLOWER BORDER 255

INDEX . . .

. 237

. . . . 273

# CQLOURED PLATES

An Ideal Cottage Garden	•	•	•	1	rontis	piece
In the Paved Garden at Hew Worcestershire .	BLL (		•	Facing	page	8
GRASS WALK SPANNED BY ARCHE	s of	Crimso	N	•		_
RAMBLER ROSE	•	•	•	**		46
Rose Dorothy Perkins on the	B Po	OND-SİI	)B			
AT KEW	•	•	٠	**	••	24
ROSES IN LORD READING'S GAR	DEN	•	•	**	,,	32
THE PAVED OR STONE GARDEN	AT	Hewe	LL			
Grange	•	·•	•	,,	••	50
A GARDEN OF HEATHER .	•	•		,,	,,	61
A "DRY" WALL PLANTED W	TTH	Broo	M,			
GORSE AND OTHER FLOWER	8	•	•	••	••	66
A ROCKERY BORDER PLANTED	WITH	ALPII	NB			
FLOWERS	•	•	•	,,	**	88
RHODODENDRONS BY THE WATE	R-SII	<b>S</b>	•	**	**	98
A BORDER OF AUTUMN BLOSSON	M	•	•	••	,,	112
Ann Hathaway's Cottage and	) Ga	RDBN	•	,,	,,	124
In the Wild Garden at Wisley	r, Sv	RRBY	•	,,	,,	136
DAFFODILS IN THE GRASS .		•	•	,,	**	144
Spring Flowers in Belvoir Cas	TLB (	GARDE	NS	,,	,,	164
THE ROSE GARDEN AT HATEIRI	.n	_	_			208

# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Anemone, The Snowdrop			Facing	page	202
Azalea Garden, June in the .			,,	,,	87
Border, A Flower, Well Planted.			**	,,	115
Border Flowers, Two Handsome Har	ďv				253
Border full of Blossom, A	•			,,	114
Border of Hardy Flowers, A Mixed			**	,,	118
Briar, The White Japanese			••		163
Broom, A Charming Little			,,	,,	130
Carnation Lady Gay	•		••	••	181
Carnation Walk, A, in a Kentish Ga	rden		**	,,	180
Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles .			,,	,,	149
Chrysanthemums, White, Out of Doc	ors		,,	,,	80
Clematis Madame Van Houtte .			,,	,,	127
Clematis, The Mountain	•		,,	,,	126
Crocuses, Blue and White, in Grass			,,		174
Cupressus Lawsoniana, A Variety of			,,	,,	107
Cypress, A Charming Grey-leaved			,,	••	102
Cypresses, A Group of	•		.,	••	97
Daffodil, Trumpet, Duke of Bedford	•		,,	,,	226
Daffodils in the Wild Garden .	•		••		142
Daffodils Planted on a Grass Bank			,,		143
Dahlia Kaiserin Augusta Victoria			,,	,,	171
Dahlia Mrs. Dorey, a Good Variety for	Gard	en	••	••	-, -
Display		-		,,	167
Daisy Bush, The New Zealand .			**	,,	203
Dutch Garden at Hewell Grange, Th	10.	•	,,		74
Edging of Dwarf Bellflowers. An		•	••	,,	119
Eremuri, A Group of	-	-	**	**	188
Flowers from Seed, A Border of.	•	•	**	••	139
Formal Garden, The, Hewell Grange, W	orcest	85-	••	,,	-37
shire					4
Foxgloves, Self-sown	•	•	,,	,,	138
Garden of Rock and Water, Shenfield	i Man	or.	**	"	-30
near Basingstoke		,			12

T	ICT	OB	TTT	TICTO	ATIONS
•	151	UJF	11.1	JOIR	AIIUNS

LIST OF ILLUSTRAT	CIONS		X1
Grass Paths between Borders of Hard Flowers	. Facing	page	5
Midlands	• ,,	••	12
Heather, White, Cross-leaved, Flower Bed of		,,	58
Hedges of Lime Trees	• ,,	••	106
Iris, Siberian, Grouped by the Lakeside	• ,,		156
Lavender and Roses	• ,,	• •	157
Lavender Hedge in a Worcestershire Garde		,,	54
Lilac, The Persian	• "	,,	92
Lily, The Plantain	• ,,		206
Lupin, A Splendid Clump of			238
Michaelmas Daisies	• ,,		212
Orchid, A Hardy	. ,,		238
Path, A Winding, Bordered by Calceolarias	,,	,,	123
Path Margined with Common Thyme.	. ,,		122
Paved Garden, Stone Steps and Flower			
Borders in the	. ,,	,,	47
Paved or Stone Garden, The	. ,,	,,	46
Poet's Narcissi, One of the Finest .	• ,,	,,	239
Primrose Dell, A, in Buckinghamshire.	• ,,	,,	93
Rhododendron, A Splendid Bush of .	• ,,	,,	86
Rhododendron Dell at Kew, The .	• 11	,,	84
Rhododendrons Massed by a Garden Path	• ,,	,,	85
Rockery Border Planted with Ferns, Irises, etc.		,,	91
Rockfoil, The Showiest	• ,,		213
Rockfoils, The King of	• ,,		130
Rock Plant, A Favourite	• ,,		244
Rose Armosa	• ,,	,,	26
Rose Baroness Rothschild	• "	,,	27
Rose Climbing Captain Christy	. ,,	,,	43
Rose Conrad F. Meyer, one of the Mos			.5
Fragrant of all	• ,,	,,	55
Rose Elisa Robichon	• •	,,	31

42

38

35

148

162

Rose Crimson Rambler

Rose Félicité Perpétue

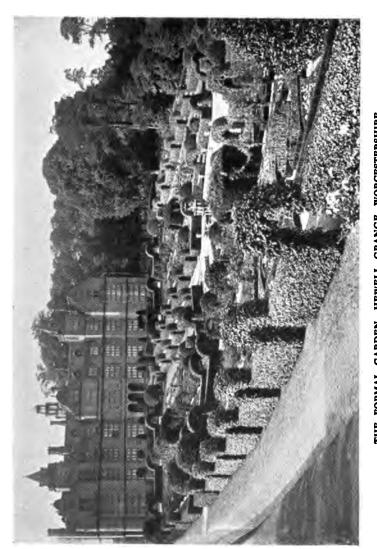
Rose, Double-Flowered Musk

Rose-Enclustered Arch, A .

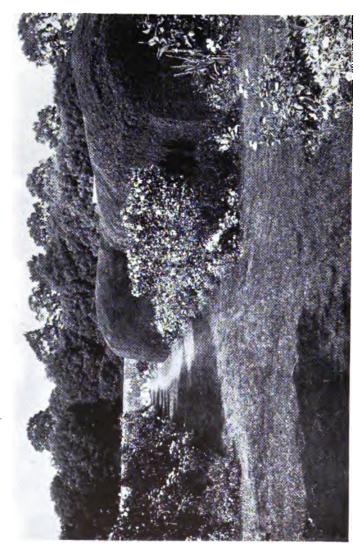
Rose Dean Hole

any rate it serves to illustrate my meaning. Cannot you imagine someone who knew little or nothing about gardening reading some such instructions from an ultra-precise treatise and carefully following the advice to the letter? It is easy to do so.

To take another example, the familiar work of layering Carnations. One is invariably given a counsel of perfection that is all very well in its way, but unfortunately it is often so presented as to convince the amateur that he cannot succeed by any other means. One is told to prepare barrowloads of specially sifted sandy soil, to get in a stock of layering pins (perhaps to choose showery weather for carrying out the work), and, "unkindest cut of all," layering must take place not later than the last week in July, or and endless unpleasant contingencies are promised. My Carnations (and I am sure those of most other people) are never really over until the second week in August, and in a late season they may not begin to bloom until the end of July. Would I then go trampling about amongst them, damaging blooms and breaking off buds, just to satisfy that ogre of ultra-expert advice? Not a bit of it. I begin layering just as soon as, and no sooner than, the blooms are over. And shall I buy expensive layering pins when hairpins will do just as well? Scarcely. Or wait for showery weather? Or go to the expense of buying sand and soil and to the labour of sifting it, when I find that my Carnation layers will root, if not equally well, at least very



THE FORMAL GARDEN, HEWELL GRANGE, WORCESTERSHIRE.



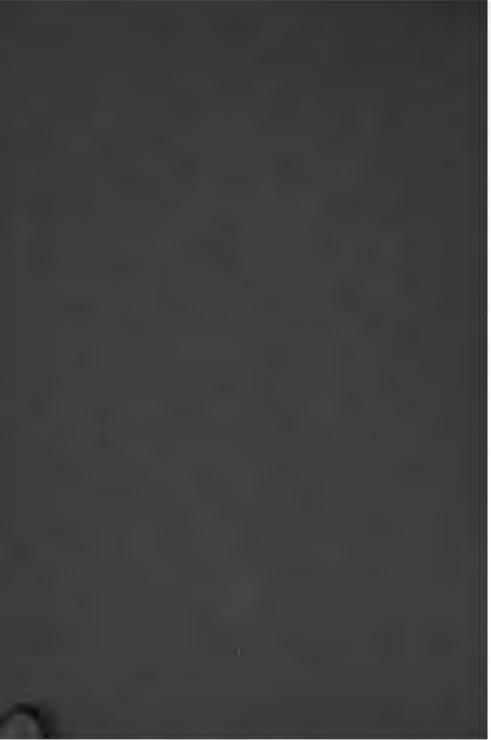
GRASS PATHS BETWEEN BORDERS OF HARDY FLOWERS. THE GIANT HEDGES ARE OF YEW.

satisfactorily, in the border soil round about them when I have broken it up with a trowel or handfork and perhaps mixed some road scrapings with it?

But, after all, when a gardening specialist takes to writing books I don't believe he means exactly all he says. He writes as he does from experience; he has learnt only the best possible way of doing things. He writes also in the belief that if you preach a sufficiently high counsel of excellence at the amateur he will, at any rate, strive to follow it, and the more he strives the less he is likely to fall short. It is analogous to the case of your medical adviser, who after he has felt your pulse and looked at your tongue, puts forth his counsel of perfection. Probably not for a moment believing that you will do all that he tells you, he promptly reduces your allowance of tobacco, and prescribes the early to bed and early to rise fable. However, there is this difference between the cases. Although your doctor may do his best to make you believe that life will scarcely be worth living unless you carry out his instructions to the letter, he rarely does so. You do not really take seriously everything he says; but realising that there is much truth in what he tells you, you wisely follow at least some of his advice.

Now, I am afraid that the inexperienced gardener regards expert advice in rather a different light. He believes he must take it as it is given and follow it blindly, or else leave gardening alone altogether. A PLOWER PRINCED PATHWAY IN A PAVED GARDEN





of cherished schemes, long-pondered plans. secret of its charm is that it has kept him looking forward, alternately with hope and misgiving; he has built success upon the foundation stone of disappointment, and in spite of disillusion. As the garden grows old it is doubtless very different from the ideal which the designer first hoped to attain. But each season has had its successes, although looking back, in the light of fuller experience, one is inclined to regard them with disdain and class them as failures. As one grows old the passing of each milestone along life's way brings disillusion to some ideal, but as compensation fresh points of view are opened up, new thoughts arise, and even though they too must pass into oblivion they serve their purpose and display fresh beauties in the life around It is in this way that our gardens grow in our affections: with us they were young, with us they are growing old. While each must bring to bear on the making of his garden such imagination as he may possess, the plants weaving the gossamer while the designer spins the web, the work must proceed on sound principles, or, like some nebulous will-o'the-wisp, an ideal will ever be before the gardener's eves but always beyond his reach.

In his work "On the Making of Gardens," Sir George Sitwell writes: "Next to the choice of site I would put the maxim that we must subordinate the house to the landscape, not the landscape to the house." He would make it vast and austere

where the note is one of grandeur or ruggedness; sweet and low where Nature is in a smiling mood: tall in a level plain; rich with coupled shafts and sculptured friezes and cool colonnades if it faces a quiet prospect; and so on. But what of those thousands of men and women, for whom this book is primarily intended, who have little choice in the matter of site and whose love for gardening comes largely after they are possessors of a garden? Then the house, its style and position, plays an important part in determining the character and general design of the garden, and one cannot ignore it. It would be folly to do so, for as no house is complete without a garden, neither is a garden complete without a house. One is the complement of the other, and the skill of the worker is in proportion to the success with which he blends them in tender harmonies, or creates bold effects by striking contrasts. Above all things, mould the design from your own ideas.

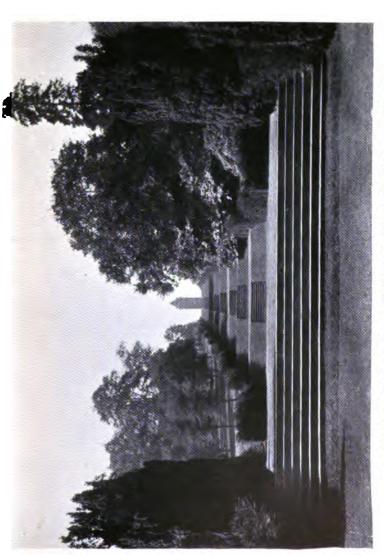
"And chief of all beware,
Lest wrecked your aim on imitation's shore;
What tho' the original be fair,
Transferred it perishes for want of soul,
Drawn from some masterpiece of art
Tho' true its lines, the copy plays a sorry part."

"Tender harmonies" blending house and garden in one melodious design are brought about most simply when the house stands towards the middle of the garden and on fairly low ground. "Bold effects by striking contrasts" are more easily achieved when the house stands on high ground and towards one end or corner of the garden. In the latter case the house should be allowed, as it really does, to dominate the garden: the design must be subservient to it and be focused, as it were, in the direction of the house. Let the walks lead there unmistakably, let them not go in too roundabout a manner; in a design suited to this kind of garden directness is the thing. Since the house from its position must necessarily be the most prominent feature in the design, let us proceed to accentuate and not to detract from the value of that feature. An opportunity is offered of forming a terrace along its front, a terrace perhaps that can be "faced" by a "dry" retaining wall, the chinks and crannies of which may be flooded with streams of Pinks and Bellflowers, Rockfoil and Arabis, Rockcress and Candytuft, and the top covered with Rock Rose and Cistus, Snapdragon, Broom, and Gorse. Or it may be enveloped in a bower of Roses, fountains of blossom from the soil above, garlands of bloom from the border below. The new varieties of creeping Roses (wichuraiana) are seen at their best when planted in a narrow bed along the top of a wall so that their supple growths may throw festoons of flowers across its face, while plants put out at the foot of the wall will quickly climb to meet those dangling from above. The terrace might lead at one end to a little paved garden, and at the other to a garden of herbs.

Below the terrace steps what shall we do? Ah! a hundred schemes will suggest themselves to a hundred readers and another one to me. Bold masses of rich colour, groups of tall, commanding trees, are to be features. Here and there Cypress and Deodar, entwined perhaps with the glorious scarlet-blossomed trails of the flaming Nasturtium (Nasturtium speciosum), and somewhere else luxuriant, gaudy-blossomed Roses on 10-feet-high pillars shall, as it were, throw back the challenge to the house that overlooks them, creating in their own way rich and striking effects. In fact, the keynote of this design is found in bold groups of brilliant plants arranged so as to destroy any monotony of outline.

When the house stands in the midst of the garden, let there be no strong contrasts; the house shall merge into the garden, the garden be one with the house. There shall be no terrace walls, no terrace even; no formal beds, no stately promenades; all must be free and as natural as possible. This shall be a garden of winding walks, spanned by arches of Rose and Clematis, Woodbine and Vine; of informal borders, of little flower-enclustered lawns, of secret arbours, of shady walks, of frequent surprises, of veiled and hidden beauties. Creepers and climbers rising from well-filled flower borders shall cover all defining lines of masonry, so that it is scarcely possible to say where the house ends and the garden begins.

The best that a garden possesses should always,



A REMARKABLE SERIES OF GRASS STEPS AND TERRACES IN A GARDEN IN THE MIDLANDS.

.-- \*



A GARDEN OF ROCK AND WATER, SHENFIELD MANOR, NEAR BASINGSTOKE.

like a picture framed, be found enclosed. Whether it be Rose garden or paved garden, Dutch garden or herb garden, an enclosure adds to its value; it seems to inform the onlooker that here is something that, in the owner's estimation at least, is considered precious. A garden well concealed is a garden well revealed. From the moment in which a full view of a garden is obtained, this ceases to make a full appeal to the imagination.

"Had I a garden, alleys green
Should lead where none would guess
Save lovers to exchange unseen
Shy whisper and caress."

So long as something remains hidden we are conjured to weave fancies; our expectations are raised, and we go forward in joyful anticipation of we know not what. Herein we find the keynote to successful garden planning; some hidden beauty, some charm not yet revealed, must lure us, then our interest never flags.

No garden can approach perfection unless it has a beautiful lawn, and, alas! how many of those whose gardens possess the lawn have failed to appreciate and to cherish that possession! A beautiful lawn is something that cannot be improved upon; it is perfect, and to meddle with it in any way is to detract from its beauty. To dot it over with flower beds, be they never so gay, or with trees, be they never so stately, is to

leave it no longer a lawn; at once it becomes a flower garden or a shrubbery. When a garden is big enough to possess a lawn as a lawn, it is folly to attempt to "break its monotony" by interposing formal beds of flowers and by dotting its surface with isolated trees. In a garden of quite moderate size the owner may wish to have lawn, trees, and flower beds. Then instead of planting on the lawn I would advise that the lawn proper be made smaller and that detached portions of it be given up to the flower beds and trees, or that these be placed on the margin. This will be to the advantage of flower beds, trees, and lawn.

Some will tell you that a curve is a far more beautiful thing in a garden than a straight line, but I do not think it is necessarily so, An ugly curve is far more painful even than an ill-placed straight line. In a small garden both need very careful treatment. Straight lines are the safer of the two; it is the simplest thing in the world to spoil a curve. A straight walk when its margins are skilfully treated can be, and often is, very beautiful, but it needs length to show its best. In a small garden a straight walk is often aimless: it leads to nowhere; there is no suggestion of distance about it, and so it loses its greatest value. Now a winding walk, providing it winds gracefully, is often full of charm even in a small garden. Perhaps it disappears round some creeper-covered trellis or bed of shrubs; evidently it leads to

somewhere; it has a mission in the garden, and at once one's interest is aroused. We want to know where it goes and to what it leads. And in thus exciting our imagination it fulfils the highest mission of a walk, which is first of all to arouse our curiosity as to its destination, and then to lead us there with as much grace as it can show and circumstances will allow. But how often in a garden of limited extent, laid out after a square design, does not one find so-called winding walks-an instance of the most ridiculous and lamentable of all attempts at garden planning! They wriggle in and wriggle out, making no attempt to lead anywhere, shamefacedly exposing themselves to view throughout their full length. Even a short straight walk is infinitely preferable; at least it makes no pretence to be other than it is.

## CHAPTER III

## A CHAT ABOUT ROSES

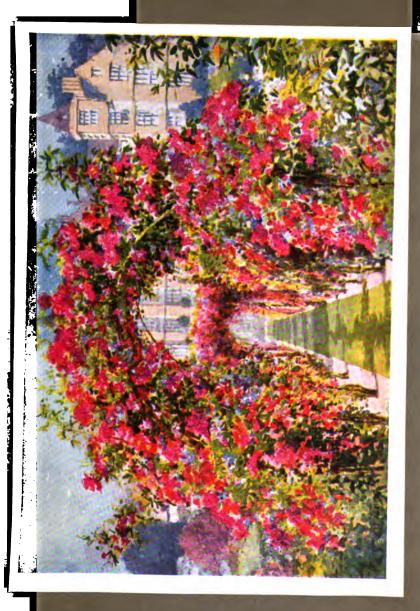
A garden without Roses is like a ring without jewels; but a garden of Roses is ring and jewels all in one.

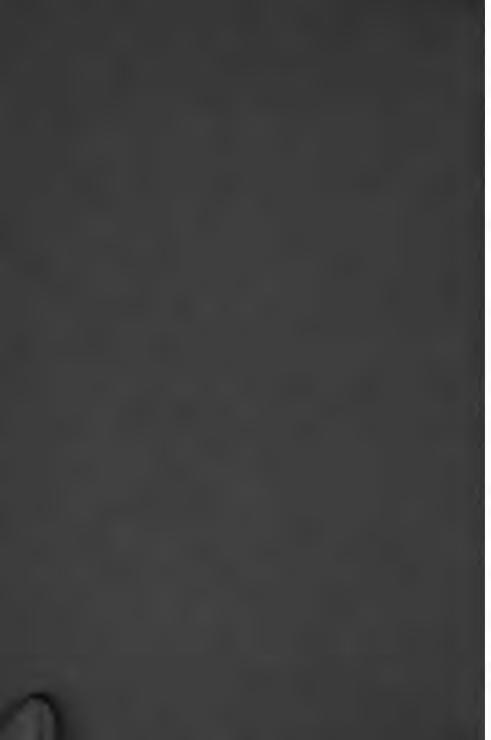
WHEN one who has taken little or no interest in flowers comes to have a garden of his own he is certain first of all to plant Roses. And every gardener will tell you that no better start can be A garden without Roses is like a ring without jewels; but a garden of Roses is ring and jewels all in one. I am writing among the Roses, in that part of my garden which is all of Roses, and how complete and satisfying it is. There is variety of colouring, diversity in form of flower, vigour of growth and manner of growth. Each bloom has its charm, and the whole association is one of pure delight. My garden is bounded by Roses that recognise no limits and have an admirable disregard and contempt for right of way. The law of trespass has no terrors for them, they clamber about the poles and pillars, trellis and pergola put up for the support of their lissom shoots; but they make almost as free of my neighbour's garden as of my own, and without shame flaunt their vigorous, flower-bedecked shoots above and even through his barren fences.

GRASS WALK SPANNED BY ARCHES OF CRIMSON RAMBLER ROSE.

GROSS WALK SPANNED BY ANCHES A GROMSON HANDILR ROSE

.





do not object, and, strangely enough, neither does he! Truth to tell they do him a kindness, since, despite an occasional request as to the name of this or the name of that, when my Lady Gay or Madame d'Arblay are in the flush of their wondrous beauty, my neighbour still restricts his homage to Crimson Rambler and an old white Ayrshire Rose, both of which were probably in the garden when he came. But I have hopes of him, for every autumn I add fresh treasures to my garden of Roses, and with each striving to outdo the other at blossoming time he must surely hide his head for very shame, or try to wrest some secrets from the queen of flowers. In so doing he would add a fresh interest to his leisure, a keener zest to his working hours.

I often pity the man whom I see making his daily or bi-daily tour du jardin when his beds and borders have nothing better to show than a few half-starved Standards or old-fashioned dwarf Roses, for at a cost that is reckoned not in pounds but in shillings, he might fill his garden with a wealth of lovely bloom. To be successful in gardening one must first of all grow old-fashioned kinds of flowers, but one must choose up-to-date varieties, for most of them have been wonderfully improved, and none in a greater measure perhaps than the Rose. You may, if you wish, still plant the Rose beds with Boule de Neige, John Hopper, Paul Neyron, Sultan of Zanzibar, and further "lights of other days": though you may in this way have a

Rose garden you will never have a real garden of Roses.

A Rose garden is one that is planted with Roses, but a garden of Roses is fairyland, where, almost without ceasing, you may gather posies of fair blossom; where at evening you may sit and dream sweet dreams as the cool breeze whispers with a soft caress and on your cheek implants a fragrant kiss redolent of tender memories. A fairyland where petals half folded catch the glint of the setting sun and a warm glow pervades the full-grown blooms. We are all the better for a little dreaming sometimes, and a garden of Roses is an ideal spot in which to weave fancies: there the real becomes the unreal, the prosaic becomes the enchanting, and a glamour born of its leafy aisles and blossomed alleys veils the workaday world, for one sees it veritably through rose-coloured spectacles.

The working life of a London journalist is one of striving, of keen and constant thought, of long days and short nights; with one eye on his own paper and the other on those of his rivals, he stands in danger of impairing the sight of both. Probably in many details his life is but the counterpart of thousands of others differently though in a way similarly engaged. It is essentially one that demands moments of idleness and contemplation, and where better can these be spent than in the garden? When the shadows lengthen across the lawn, when the sun goes down and in its going fills the garden

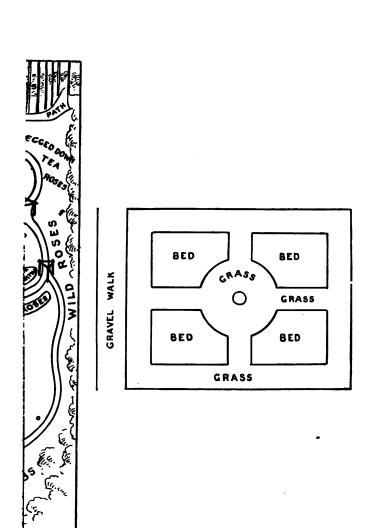


PILLARS OF BLOSSOM-ROSE LADY GAY (BRIGHT PINK).

Roses, when unpleasant surprises have come as they are bound to come, one's expectations perhaps do not soar quite so high; yet the Rose is so anxious to please, if fairly treated, that hopes are usually more than realised.

How and where shall we make our Rose garden? Unless it is a case of "Hobson's choice," let it be near the house, that we may enjoy the flowers in fair weather and in foul. The correct advice to give in the matter of choosing a site for a Rose garden, flower garden, rock garden, or, in fact, almost any kind of garden, is, I suppose, the orthodox, "Select a position in the open" away from trees or buildings that will shade it. We all know that flowers, with few exceptions, love sunshine, and none more so than the Rose. When the "open positions" available are of quite limited area, something has to put up with shade; but Roses, I think, should have first call on the sunny ground, not for any sentimental reason, but because no other flower is altogether so satisfactory. A careful selection of varieties gives blossom from May until December, and even when not in bloom a Rose tree is far more attractive than most border flowers, which die with an ugliness that pains and depresses. Although there are some accommodating varieties that will grow and. more important still, will bloom in the shade, the Rose thrives best in a sunny spot.

The question as to how we are to make the Rose garden is one about which one might write a book





and leave the reader little the wiser. I think everyone ought to design his own Rose garden. He is likely to be better pleased with it than if the garden is made from a plan supplied by an expert. It will usually be found that the simpler the design, the more satisfactory is the garden. I venture to give two designs for a formal Rose garden. They represent Rose gardens in being. There are possible suggestions in one or the other, or both, that may prove of value to readers when they happen to be making a new or remodelling an old one. More than that I scarcely hope for. It is possible that in some cases the plans may prove suitable just as they are, but I think the real usefulness of any garden design, unless conceived for a special situation, is found in whatever suggestions it may contain rather than in its suitability for adaptation as a whole. I give also a design for a free—as opposed to a formal—Rose garden, one in which the winding walks are spanned by arches of Roses, where climbing varieties are perhaps of greater importance than those of dwarf habit of growth. When the space is small, a formal design shows Roses to the best advantage. The third design is likely to be successful only when it is not cramped. Arches and arbours, pillars and pergola are a feature; so, too, are beds massed with one colour, which give a striking effect when viewed from a distance.

The more one gardens, and the greater variety one grows, the more one realises how difficult it is to

say with certainty that this Rose is bad and that is good, that this won't grow and that will. me cite an example, one of many I might name. I had little faith in the climbing varieties of bush roses, e.g. Climbing Mrs. Grant, Climbing Caroline Testout, Climbing Liberty, Climbing Frau Karl Druschki, which are similar to the dwarf Roses of the same name except that they climb. However, I bought a plant of Climbing Mrs. Grant and planted it in a corner formed by a wall facing south and one facing west, a position that might well be considered I have gathered some delightful Roses from this plant, blooms that were just as perfect as Climbing Mrs. Grant can give, since they have no fragrance. Of what, then, do you complain, I imagine someone asking? Why, I complain that Climbing Mrs. Grant won't climb! There she is, 2 or 3 feet high, and there she stays, making no semblance of an attempt to climb; she might just as well be in the border with the bush Roses instead of sulking at the foot of a house wall with a clear run of 20 feet or more above her. Thus from my experience of this Rose I should have good grounds for writing it down as worthless. Yet I planted Climbing Mrs. Grant in a garden at Windsor, and there she simply smothers a tall rough trellis with supple shoots; blossoms of perfect form look down from a height of 6 or 8 feet—as fine a specimen of a climbing Rose as I wish to see.

Many years ago Dean Hole wrote that if ever



LOOKING DOWN THE ROSE GARDEN OF WHICH A GENERAL VIEW APPEARS FACING PAGE 19.



A PERFECT GARDEN ARBOUR. IT FORMS A CORNER IN A ROSE GARDEN.

for some heinous crime he were miserably sentenced for the rest of his life to possess but a single Rose, he should wish to be supplied on leaving the dock with a strong plant of Gloire de Dijon. I wonder whether, in view of the many exquisite Roses that have been introduced since then, this great rosarian would still have expressed the same opinion! There is nowadays such an embarras de richesse that, were I placed in a similarly unfortunate position I am afraid I should be nonplussed and find it very difficult to make such a restricted selection. But if by some mischance I was compelled to plant my garden either with climbing or with dwarf Roses I should unhesitatingly choose the former. Climbing Roses have always possessed a fascination for me, their luxuriance of growth and profusion of bloom compel my whole-souled admiration. When in bloom they are supremely attractive, and even the most bewitching of the Teas and hybrid Teas suffer neglect for the moment. Apart from the beauty of the flowers, they owe their popularity largely to the fact that, given fair treatment, they "grow like weeds," to use a colloquialism. There is something so very satisfactory about a plant that makes good growth. One is bound to feel an interest in it. Why, I believe I take as much delight in marking the progress of the 10-feet-high shoots of Crimson Rambler as in watching the opening of the gorgeous flowers. There is something very impressive, it seems to me, in the way in which the baby shoots

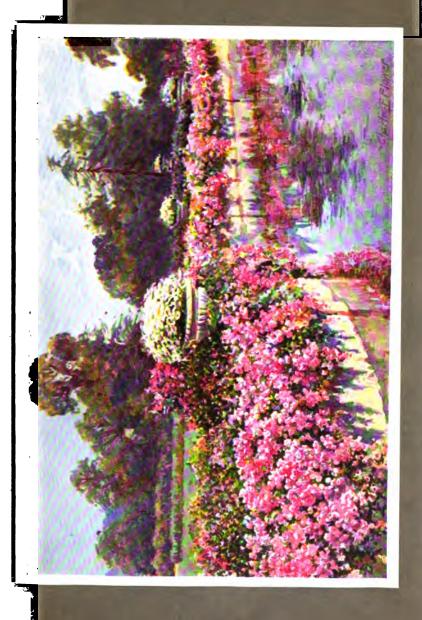
fulfil their destiny. Starting from the hard wood at the base of the plant, they lengthen and strengthen as day follows day and week runs into week, not with undue haste, but with a precision that never fails—unless some marauding slug eludes discovery and makes short work of them! They are toothsome morsels, these young and succulent growths.

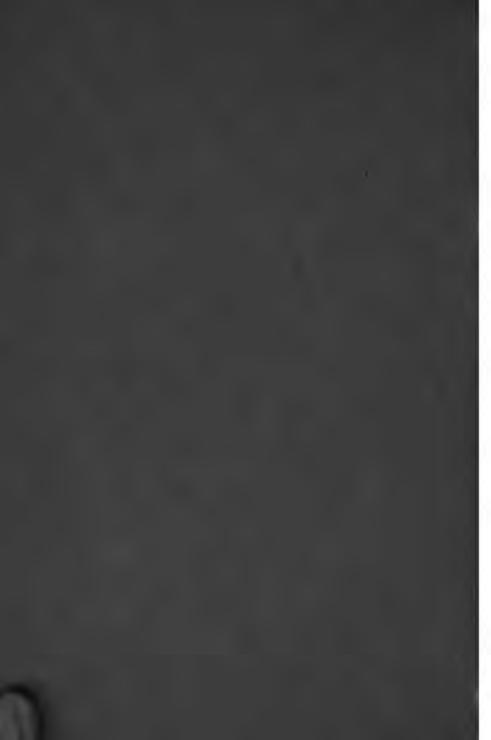
This train of thought leads to a point of some practical importance: these baby shoots from the base of the trees are the sole barrier between youth and old age in a climbing Rose. The season that shows no vigorous growth from somewhere near the ground marks the first step beyond the milestones of youth—the Rose has become middle aged. Middle age and old age in Roses are uncomfortably close. and a Rose in its old age, decrepit and worn out. bare of leaf and sparse of blossom, is not beautiful to look upon. Fortunately a middle-aged Rose, and sometimes an old one, may be rejuvenated by severe branch pruning, and by removing a good deal of the old soil about the roots, replacing this with fresh, turfy material. I remember a group of plants of Crimson Rambler Rose that were getting old and full of weak shoots that gave gradually fewer blooms. One spring they were cut down almost to the ground level, as one would cut willows; as a consequence vigorous new shoots were produced, and the old plants have now taken a new lease of life.

Most climbing Roses can be kept youthful for

ROSE DOROTHY PERKINS PLANTED IN A NARROW BORDER ON THE POND SIDE AT KEW.

ROSE DORGTHY PERKINS PLANTED IN A NARROW CORDER ON THE POND SIDE AT ALS.



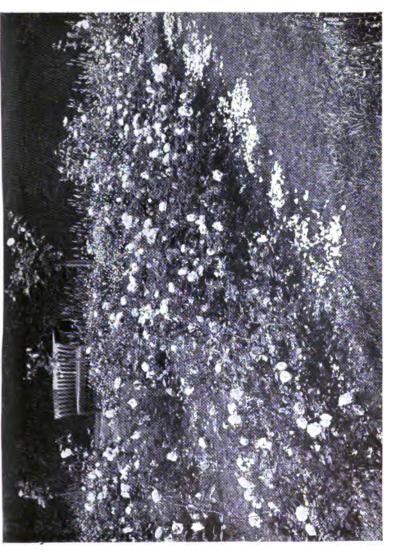


years, and it is bad gardening to let them grow old before their time. It is a simple matter to induce the growth of fresh shoots from somewhere near the This may or may not necessitate cutting The end in view is often back the older branches. accomplished by bending some of them to a position as nearly horizontal as possible. If this is done in early spring, when pruning and tying are carried out, it is strange if a strong new shoot does not develop from several joints. If in addition to fastening the branches horizontally, one also cuts them back as may seem necessary, the result is made doubly sure. Climbing Roses, when the shoots are bunched together, often flower indifferently: if some of the older growths are cut away and those remaining are spread out in the shape of a fan, a far better harvest of blossom is obtained. The chief thing to attend to in the cultivation of Roses is to cut out the old wood and encourage the growth of new. Unless they are kept young they will quickly grow old.

There are some Roses that seem to possess perpetual youth and vigour; even with indifferent treatment they send up strong growths from the base every season without fail. There are other Roses that seem determined to grow old quickly, and constant care is necessary to keep them from doing so. The former are indubitably beginners' Roses—Roses for the amateur of limited practice; the latter are Roses to grow when knowledge has been gained by experience. The beginners' Roses

comprise all the Hybrid wichuraiana sorts; or, to put it more plainly, perhaps, those cross-bred varieties of creeping Roses that have become so popular within recent years. Familiar sorts are Dorothy Perkins, Jersey Beauty, Alberic Barbier, Hiawatha, Lady Gay, and many more. Included also among beginners' Roses are Crimson Rambler, Tea Rambler, Blush Rambler, Conrad F. Meyer, Madame d'Arblay. Of Roses that the beginner would do well to avoid are Gloire de Dijon, Longworth Rambler, Celine Forestier, and the climbing sports from well-known bush varietiese.g. Climbing Frau Karl Druschki. It may seem odd to tell a beginner to exclude Gloire de Dijon from his first selection when this variety figures more largely than any other in gardens; but I class it with those that need experienced guidance to prevent their growing old before their time. They who still pin their faith to this old favourite should go the round of a few gardens where Gloire de Dijon is grown. I am certain the majority of the plants would be found to have gaunt, bare, straggling stems, with scarcely a bloom within 4 feet of the ground. Again, go the round in search of Dorothy Perkins, and scarcely one will be seen that is not the picture of health, full of leaves and blossom from top to base.

How, then, to counteract this tendency in some Roses to rush to an early grave? Let me put briefly the chief points to be observed. It goes



THE CHARMING OLD BOURBON ROSE ARMOSA THAT FLOWERS FREELY AND CONTINUOUSLY.

THE BLOOMS ARE PINK.



STANDARDS OF ROSE BARONESS ROTHSCHILD (LIGHT PINK, H.P.).

without saying that the Rose must be well planted, preferably in early November, and that all shoots must be cut down in the March following. All will be well in the ensuing summer, but the next year the trouble may begin. Two or three nice redbrown growths will probably appear, say half-way up some of the previous season's shoots. If allowed to develop, they will be several feet long by the end of the summer, and possibly the grower congratulates himself that the Rose is thriving admirably. Apparently it is; but what of next year's prospects? -where will the young growths start from then? Why, higher than ever, of course. It is easy to foresee the result—a tree with all top and no bottom. The remedy is this: every season in which no strong young shoot appears from somewhere near the base of the plant, say within a foot, cut down one of the older growths to within two or three inches of the base, and so force a young shoot to grow from there. It is obvious that if this is not done when first it becomes necessary, later on in cutting down an old shoot, one that is much branched may have to be sacrificed, with the result that the tree is disfigured. Sometimes the desired result can be secured by bending down the shoots nearest the ground; this is especially the case with Roses growing on walls when there is plenty of space in a lateral direction.

I have a plant of that beautiful white (or almost white) flowered climbing Rose, Madame Alfred

something, and I have to thank my lucky star (or I would do if I knew which it was), and incidentally Mr. Andrew Kingsmill, for a day spent in the latter's garden at Harrow Weald. There I found the solution of the pergola difficulty—the difficulty, that is, of making a pergola that, while apparently old, has perpetual youth. This is rather a paradoxical statement, but I hope to make it clear. The simple explanation is, that while the uprights of Mr. Kingsmill's pergola are of iron, they are covered with wood—old wood that looks as though every moment might be its last in a perpendicular position. I scarcely liked to hint that it would be wise to provide new poles before the old ones collapsed, but I suppose a sense of alarm, as expressed in my look of apprehension for the safety of the Roses, found an echo in my companion's thoughts, for Miss Kingsmill gave me a glimpse behind the scenes. and gleefully pointed out the supporting iron contained in a large slit in the wood. Oh! that we might similarly and with equal ease hide all artificial helps in our gardens! I have given away the secret, and now there is no good reason why every garden may not have its pergola, hoary and grey without, ugly and strong within.

Even the best of pergolas sometimes detract from rather than add to the beauty of a garden, namely, when they are ill placed. Occasionally, like tunnels in the daylight, they stand in the middle of the garden, leading to nowhere in particular, and serving



THE OLD SEVEN SISTERS ROSE ON A HOUSE WALL IN YORKSHIRE.

A BUSH OF THE BEAUTIFUL CREEPING ROSE BLISA ROBICHON.

only as a support for the exposition of brilliant blooms. But this is not the object of a pergola. A pergola is a covered way—a way from one place to another-and it is only when placed so as to fulfil this condition that it is seen at its best. It may lead from one part of the garden to another; it may lead only to some sequestered seat, some creeper-covered arbour, but, please, it should lead somewhere. While I have nothing good to say of the imitation pergola, I have nothing but praise for the love of the Rose that prompts its erection. Yet it is far better to put up a few simple arches or pillars, or even a trellis, in a small garden than to erect an imitation pergola for which there is not room, and which has no raison d'être. The former are scarcely ever out of place, while the latter frequently is.

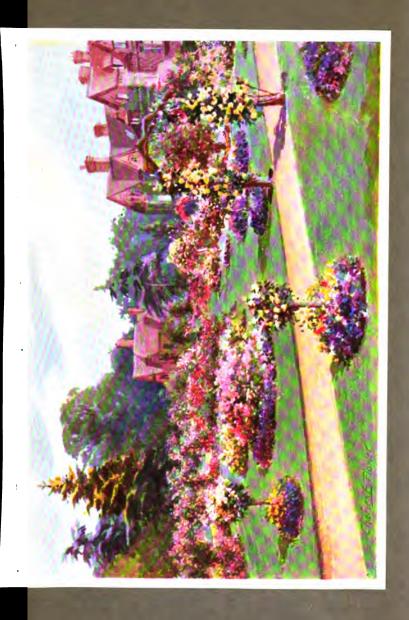
Does your garden contain a weeping Rose? No? Then it is incomplete. My Rose garden is not a large one, but I am glad to say that it can boast a weeping Rose. One may have weeping Roses on stems 6 to 8 feet high. There is no object in the realm of cultivated flowers so fascinating as a weeping Rose. Slender shoots depend from the top of the briar with such perfect grace as only a Rose can show, and, when flower-laden, form a perfect parasol of blossom. The variety I have is Hiawatha, and it is quite one of the best. It has single flowers, crimson with a bunch of yellow stamens for centre. The blossoms are in bunches and last in beauty for weeks together. Almost any of the wichuraiana

or creeping Roses, of which Hiawatha is one do equally well. Weeping standards need no special care. One has only to plant them in good, turfy soil, making a hole 3 feet across (the soil having been dug at least 2 feet deep and manure intermixed), put in a strong stake, make the soil firm about the roots, and heigho! leave the Rose largely to its own devices. The shoots are cut hard back in the March following; in succeeding years a few of the older growths-those that have floweredare removed as soon as the blooms are over. Could anything be simpler? And when the Rose gets too big for its shoes, as it soon will do if sufficient space is not allotted to it, why then I must leave the reader to his own devices. While I am ready to advise in case of failure, to prescribe a remedy for embarrassing success is quite another matter, and a solution must be left to the genius who occasioned it.

Roses play a large part in the Ideal Garden, so perhaps no apology is needed for saying so much about them. They are such a big theme to the enthusiast (and I can always wax enthusiastic about Roses) that it is difficult to know when to stop. I seem only to have touched upon the fringe of an inexhaustible subject, yet I am filling more pages than I really have to spare. I am sure the compositor (unless he happens to be an amateur Rosegrower, and I hope for his own sake that he is) must be already weary of the very name of Roses. But I must ask him to bear up while I chat a little

				•
ROSES 1	IN LORD	GARDEN	BBRKSHIRE.	

ROSES IN LORD READING'S GARDEN IN BERKSHIRE.



ROSES IN LORD READING'S GARDEN IN BERKSHIRE





longer. What an inspiration it was to entitle this chapter "A Chat about Roses," since it allows me to set down thoughts of the moment. Often these are the most precious of all. Once allowed to pass they are gone, perhaps for ever, and, if no record remains, both garden and gardener may be the poorer. As anything and everything is admissible in a chat, I take leave to make a few notes on Higgledy Piggledy Rose Beds.

I do not know whether these are dictionary words (I have not looked them up in Webster or Nuttall, fearing to find they were not there), so I content myself with repeating that "Where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise." They are delightfully descriptive, at any rate, and to a T (even Dr. Johnson has written "to a T." so if I err it is in good company) set off the appearance of the Rose beds in many gardens. We take pains enough in the arrangement of our hardy flower borders, grouping plants of a kind and flowers of a colour, so why should we mix up our Roses in the way we do? It is true that we cannot put a purple against a red or a blue with a mauve, but we can do almost equally atrocious things by mixing varieties up thoroughly. By way of offering some practical suggestions about the grouping of different varieties with a due regard to their colour association, at the end of this chapter I have included lists and schemes for planting that I hope may be useful.

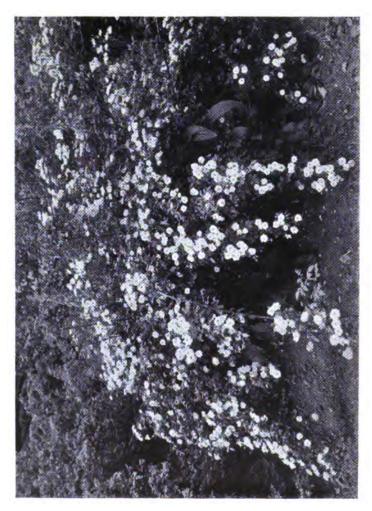
How often do we not err by planting a vigorous

Rose by a weak-growing one, quite destroying whatever chance the latter ever had of showing its full beauty. It happens frequently that the frailest Roses are those that bear the loveliest blossoms. We should do all we can to encourage their growth and assist their blossoming, and at least take care that their shoots are not smothered or their roots impoverished by the Samsons among the Roses. I have seen Hugh Dickson and Frau Karl Druschki, two extra-vigorous sorts, of which two or three plants will soon fill a bed, planted side by side with Madame Jules Grolez, Liberty, Lady Battersea, and others that are classed among the weakly growing. This is an extreme example to give, perhaps, but it illustrates the wrong principle that is frequently put into practice. Let us assort our Roses into vigorous, moderately vigorous, and weak, and plant them according to their needs in the matter of root requirements and leaf space. There will then be no ground wasted and each will have the best of chances.

Many growers ruin some of the most beautiful Roses—or, at least, never see them at their best—because they will persist in treating them as dwarfs or bushes and cut them hard back every spring, when really the proper course to pursue is to plant them against a low fence, allow them to grow into big bushes, or peg them down. By adopting the first and the last of these methods one is able to leave at full length the moderately



A GARDEN OF PINK ROSES. AMONG THE VARIETIES SHOWN ARE CAROLINE TESTOUT AND MRS. JOHN LAING.



THE DOUBLE-FLOWERED MUSK ROSE (ROSA MOSCHATA FL. PL.) GROWING AS A FREE BUSH.

vigorous shoots and so get all the bloom they are capable of giving. When the second method is practised the growth needs comparatively little shortening. Notes on planting and pruning will be found in the notes under "November" and "March" respectively, in "A Peep behind the Scenes."

# Rambling and Climbing Roses that blossom at the same time.

In planting roses to cover arches or a pergola it is best to plant against the same arch varieties of roses that bloom together. One can thus originate some charming associations and show the roses to the greatest advantage. The following list has been compiled with the object of offering suggestions to those who wish to adopt this method of planting. The varieties grouped together flower at the same time. Readers wishing to make a small selection should choose those marked with an asterisk. Those indicated by a cross are not very vigorous; they are suitable for pillars or arches about 6 feet high.

## Early June.

\*Alberic Barbier, lemon white.

\*Ruby Queen, ruby pink.

Tea Rambler, copper and rose shades.

\*Gerbe Rose, pink, large, fragrant blooms.

Carmine Pillar, carmine, single.

Waltham Bride, white, very sweet.

Anne of Geierstein, scarlet, sweet briar foliage.

François Crousse, bright red.

#### THE IDEAL GARDEN

## Flowering about June 20th.

Jersey Beauty, sulphur white.

\*Electra, yellowish white.

\*Tausendschön, rose pink.

Psyche, blush pink.

\*Flora, flesh pink.

†Climbing Mrs. W. J. Grant, deep pink.

Joseph Billiard, rich pink and yellow.

Rubin, light red.

Gardenia, yellow buds, opening white.

The Lion, crimson. Goldfinch, yellow.

Reine Olga de Würtemburg, bright red.

## Flowering about July 1st.

Mme. Alfred Carrière, blush white.

\*Crimson Rambler, scarlet.

\*Félicité Perpétue, white. The Wallflower, purplish rose.

\*Hiawatha, scarlet crimson.

\*Elisa Robichon, chamois yellow.

Mrs. F. W. Flight, rose pink.

Bennett's Seedling, white.

Wedding Bells, cherry pink.

Blush Rambler, blush pink. Helène, lilac and blush. Sweetheart, white. Coquina, white and pink. Minnehaha, rose pink.

Philadelphia Rambler, crimson.

Climbing Captain Christy, pink.

## Flowering about July 20th.

\*Dorothy Perkins, Pink. Wichuraiana white. \*Lady Gay, pink. Delight, cherry red. White Dorothy, white. Wichuraiana rubra, rose red. Leopoldine d'Orléans. Lady Godiva, light pink.

# In flower about August 10th. (These would also blossom earlier.)

\*†Aimée Vibert, white.

\*†Alister Stella Gray, yellowish white. Longworth Rambler, red. Gruss an Teplitz, scarlet.

\*†Trier, buff and pink.

\*Gloire de Dijon, buff and yellow.

\*†Mme. Jules Siegfried, creamy white.

Zephyrin Drouhin, cerise. Mme. Alfred Carrière, blush

white.

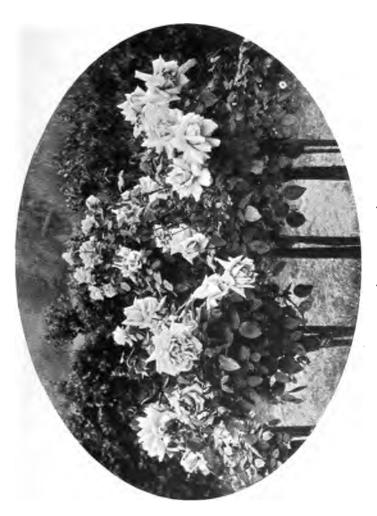
Lady Waterlow, pink and yellow.

## Fifty Roses that are fragrant.

Name.			CLASS.		COLOUR
Abel Carrière .	•	•	H.P.		Very dark crimson.
Alfred Colomb .	•		H.P.		Light red.
A. K. Williams .			H.P.		Rich red.
Ards Rambler .	•	•	H.T.	•	Orange red; a good pillar rose.
*Augustine Guinoissea	lu	•	H.T.	•	Blush white; very free, good in autumn.
Cabbage Rose .	•	•	Provenc	e.	One of the very sweetest.
*Captain Hayward			H.P.		Bright red.
Charles Darwin .	•	•	H.P.		Brownish crimson; a good though neglected rose.
*Charles J. Grahame	•	•	H.T.	•	A
Charles Lefebvre	•	•	H.P.	•	Dark crimson; a good rose.
*Commandant Félix I	aure	• •	H.P.	•	Scarlet crimson; splendid.
*Conrad F, Meyer	•	•	Hybrid Rugos		Pink; a rampant climber, with very thorny shoots; a magnificent rose.
*Countess Annesley			H.T.		Salmon pink.
Danmark			H.T.		Pink; of fine form.
*Dr. C. Donald Brown	ne	•	H.T.	•	Carmine rose; vigorous.

## THE IDEAL GARDEN

Name.			CLASS.		COLOUR
Duchess of Albany			H.T.		A deep-coloured La
•					France.
Duke of Wellington	•		H.P.		Scarlet red.
*Elizabeth Barnes			H.T.		Salmon rose; a
				·	beautiful new sort.
*Ella Gordon .	•	•	H.P.	•	Crimson; good in autumn.
*Eugénie Lamesch	•	•	Polyanth	ıa	Orange, tipped red; a pretty little flower.
*Fisher Holmes .	•	•	H.P.	•	Dark crimson.
*Général Jacqueminot			H.P.		A very good red
_					rose.
*General MacArthur	•	•	H.T.	•	Bright red; splen- did in autumn; a very fine garden rose.
*Gloire de Dijon			H.T.		Buff and orange.
*Gruss an Teplitz			H.T.		Scarlet red; good
oran an repair	•	•		•	climber for west wall.
*Gustav Grunerwald	•	•	H.T.	•	Carmine pink; one of the best of the newer roses.
Hector Mackenzie	•	•	H.T.		Dark pink.
His Majesty .	•		H.T.		Dark crimson.
*Hugh Dickson .	•		H.P.		The best crimson
					rose.
*Johanna Sebus .	•	•	H.T.	•	Cerise; vigorous, good.
*La France	•	•	H.T.	•	Silvery pink; one of the sweetest.
*Laurent Carle .	•	•	H.T.	•	Velvety carmine; a good new rose.



HYBRID TEA ROSE DEAN HOLE (SILVERY ROSE) GROWN AS A STANDARD.

AN ARCH COVERED WITH ROSE TEA RAMBLER.

Name.		CLASS.		COLOUR.
*Liberty		H.T.	•	Rich crimson.
Louis Van Houtte .	•	H.P.	•	Maroon; good in autumn.
*Lyon Rose		H.T.	•	Shrimp pink and orange; a wonderful colour.
*Mme. Abel Chatenay		H.T.	•	Salmon pink.
*Mme. Alfred Carrière	•	H.T.	•	Blush white; climber, perpet- ual flowering.
*Mme. Isaac Pereire .	•	Hybrid Bourbo	n	Carmine rose.
*Mme. J. Grolez	•	H.T.	•	Rose pink; rather small, good in autumn.
*Mme. Ravary		H.T.		Orange yellow.
*Maréchal Niel		т		Golden yellow; greenhouse or warm wall.
Meta	•	Т	•	Crushed strawberry and yellow.
*Mrs. J. Laing		H.P.		Soft pink.
*Mrs. Stewart Clark .	•	H.T.	•	Cerise pink; fine shape.
Soleil d'Or		Briar		Orange and red.
*Souvenir d'une Amie.	•	T		Shell pink.
Souvenir de S. A. Prince		T		White.
Ulrich Brunner		H.P.		Light red.
*Viscountess Folkestone		H.T.		Creamy pink.
W. E. Lippiatt		H.T.		Velvety crimson.

Those denoted by an asterisk are good Garden Roses.

## Roses that will open in wet weather.

SHADES OF WHITE AND CREAM.—\*Amateur Teyssier, \*Anna Olivier, \*Antoine Rivoire, Countess of Derby, Enchantress,

\*Frau Karl Druschki, Gloire Lyonnaise, \*Gustave Regis, Irene, Madame Pernet Ducher, Mrs. David McKee, \*Peace, \*Prince de Bulgarie, Souvenir de S. A. Prince, White Lady.

SHADES OF BLUSH AND LIGHT PINK.—\*Admiral Dewey, \*Augustine Guinoisseau, Countess of Gosford, \*G. Nabonnand, Hon. Ina Bingham, Killarney, Kronprinzessin Cecilie, \*La Tosca, Madame L. Messimy, Mrs. Isabelle Milner, Nellie Johnstone, \*Pharisaer, Princesse Mertchersky, \*Viscountess Folkestone.

SHADES OF PINK, SALMON, AND PALE ROSE.—\*Conrad F. Meyer, \*Caroline Testout, \*Dean Hole, Dorothy Page Roberts, \*Betty, \*Earl of Warwick, Elizabeth Barnes, \*Grace Darling, \*Gustav Grunerwald, Johanna Sebus, Königin Carola, \*Lady Ashtown, \*Lyon Rose, \*Madame A. Chatenay, Madame E. Resal, Madame J. Dupuy, Madame Leon Pain, Meta, Mrs. A. Tate, \*Mrs. John Laing, \*Mrs. R. G. Sharman Crawford, Mrs. W. J. Grant, William Shean, \*Madame J. Grolez.

SHADES OF RED AND CRIMSON.—Betty Berkeley, Captain Hayward, Charles J. Grahame, Corallina, Dr. Andry, Ecarlate, Général Jacqueminot, \*General MacArthur, General Schablikine, Gloire de Margottin, \*Hugh Dickson, \*Lady Battersea, Laurent Carle, Liberty, Louis Van Houtte, Papa Gontier, Prince Arthur, Richmond, Sarah Bernhardt, \*Ulrich Brunner, Victor Hugo, Princesse de Sagan, Triumph.

SHADES OF YELLOW AND ORANGE.—Arethusa, \*Comtesse de Cayla, Dr. Gill, \*Edu Meyer, \*Harry Kirk, Hugo Roller, Irish Elegance, \*Joseph Hill, \*Lady Roberts, Le Progrès, Madame Falcot, Madame P. Cochet, \*Madame Hoste, \*Madame Ravary, \*Mélanie Soupert, \*Marie Van Houtte, \*Mrs. A. Ward, Queen Mab, Souvenir de Wm. Robinson, Souvenir of Stella Gray.

MAROON AND VERY DARK.—Château à Clos Vougeot, Prince C. de Rohan.

GOOD CLIMBERS FOR WET WEATHER are American Pillar, \*Ards Rover, \*Bouquet d'Or, \*Climbing C. Testout, Climbing Mrs. W. J. Grant, \*Conrad F. Meyer, \*Crimson Rambler,

Delight, \*Dorothy Perkins, \*Gloire de Dijon, \*Gruss an Teplitz, \*Hiawatha, Lady Gay, Lady Godiva, \*Madame A. Carrière, Longworth Rambler, Madame Bérard, Paradise, Reine M. Henriette, Rêve d'Or, Rubin, \*Gruss an Zabern, Tea Rambler, \*Trier, \*W. A. Richardson, Z. Drouhin, White Dorothy.

Those varieties marked by an asterisk are recommended to amateurs as good Garden Roses.

## Schemes for Planting Rose Beds

It is best to plant Roses in beds of simple shape, either circular, oblong or oval. Circular beds should not be more than 6 feet across, otherwise the Roses cannot be attended to without the soil being trodden down. Oblong beds are usually made 51 feet wide, to contain three rows of plants, the outside rows being 12 or 15 inches from the grass. Vigorous growing varieties are put 2 feet, others 18 inches apart. If a continuous display is desired, most of the Hybrid Perpetuals must be excluded. Many of them have blooms of fine colour, but they bloom in summer only. The most notable exception is Frau Karl Druschki, quite a good autumn Rose. Practically all the varieties named below are good in autumn as well as in summer. Beds filled with one or perhaps two varieties give the finest effect, and where the Rose garden is large enough this plan should be followed.

BEDS PLANTED WITH STANDARD AND BUSH ROSES.— Standard, Mme. Ravary; bush, General MacArthur, Château de Clos Vougeot; standard, Hugh Dickson; bush, Mme. A. Chatenay, Betty; standard, Caroline Testout; bush, Pharisaer, Mme. Antoine Mari; standard, Gruss an Teplitz; bush, Mme. J. Grolez, Lady Battersea; standard, Billiard et Barré; bush, Mrs. David McKee, Augustine Guinoisseau; standard, Frau Karl Druschki; bush, Joseph Hill, Melanie Soupert.

BEDS PLANTED WITH PILLAR AND BUSH ROSES.—Pillar, Alister Stella Gray; bush, Liberty; pillar, Gruss an Teplitz; bush, Katherine Zeimet; pillar, Frau Karl Druschki; bush, Ecarlate; pillar, Trier; bush, Mrs. Cutbush; pillar, Hugh Dickson; bush, Le Progrès; pillar, Lady Waterlow; bush, Charlotte Klemm; pillar, La France de '89; bush, Aschenbrodel.

BEDS PLANTED WITH WREPING STANDARD AND BUSH ROSES.—Weeping, Tausendschon; bush, Petite Constante; weeping, White Dorothy; bush, Mme. N. Levavasseur; weeping, Hiawatha; bush, Eugénie Lamesch; weeping, Dorothy Perkins; bush, Jessie; weeping, René André; bush, Mrs. Cutbush; weeping, Alberic Barbier; bush, Perle des Rouges; weeping, Elisa Robichon; bush, Schneewitchen.

## Colour Schemes for Rose Beds

DEEP YELLOW SHADES.—\*Mme. Ravary, Joseph Hill, Lady Roberts, Mélanie Soupert, Marquise de Sinety, \*Edu Meyer.

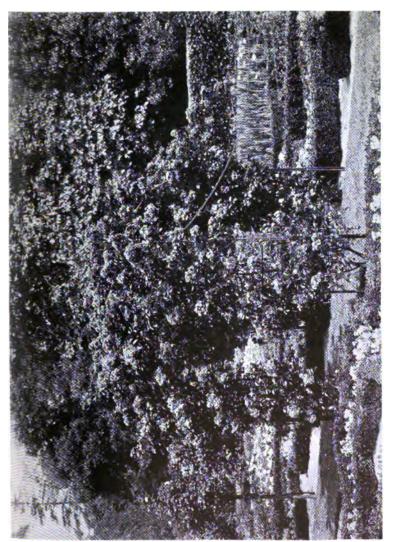
PINK SHADES.—\*Mme. Abel Chatenay, \*Betty, \*Lyon Rose, Lady Ashtown, \*Caroline Testout, Mme. Leon Pain.

Blush Shades.—\*Pharisaer, \*Florence Pemberton, \*La Tosca, Viscountess Folkestone, Antoine Rivoire, Augustine Guinoisseau.

RED SHADES.—\*General MacArthur, Richmond, \*Laurent Carle, Château de Clos Vougeot, \*Warrior, Louis Van Houtte.

ROSE SHADES.—\*Gustav Grunerwald, Mme. J. Grolez, Farbenkönigin, Mme. M. de Luze, \*Lady Battersea, Papa Gontier.

PALE YELLOW SHADES.—Mme. Hoste, \*Marie Van Houtte,



AN ARBOUR OF CRIMSON RAMBLER ROSE.



ROSE CLIMBING CAPTAIN CHRISTY.

\*Harry Kirk, Mrs. Peter Blair, \*Mme. Pernet Ducher, Amateur Teyssier.

The strongest growers are marked with an asterisk, and should be planted towards the centre.

#### Old-fashioned Roses

HYBRID CHINESE.—These make fine pillar Roses and large standards. Notable varieties are Charles Lawson, Juno, Blairii No. 2, Chenedole, Coupe d'Hebe, and Mme. Plantier, all summer blooming only. Pruning consists in cutting out some of the older shoots as soon as the blooms are over; if grown as bushes, shorten the remaining shoots to 3 or 4 feet in March.

Moss Roses.—That famous French Rosarian M. Gravereaux is said to grow in his garden, near Paris, some seventy varieties of Moss Roses. Many of them must be worthless as garden Roses; the Common Pink, White Bath or Blanche Moreau, both white, and Little Gem, red, are the best of the lot. In pruning, cut out the old wood late in July, and in spring prune fairly hard.

PROVENCE ROSES.—The fragrant Cabbage Rose is the most popular; it is probably unsurpassed for sweet scent. The Cabbage Rose is one of the longest lived of all. Others are White Provence, the Crested Provence, and the miniature De Meaux, so useful as an edging. Pruning as for Moss Roses.

Damask Roses.—The true York and Lancaster Rose, with striped blossoms, belongs to this group, although Rosa Mundi, crimson marked with white, is often sold for it. The Crimson Damask is a beautiful Rose. Mme. Hardy, white, La Ville de Bruxelles, rose, and Leda, pink and white, are other beautiful Damask Roses. In July cut out some of the oldest growths, and prune moderately in March.

ROSA ALBA, OR MAIDEN'S BLUSH.—The commonest form of this Rose has large flattish blush-coloured blooms, but Celestial, with long pink buds, is finer. Félicité Parmentier,

shell-pink, and Mme. Legros, white, are attractive varieties. When the blooms are over, a few of the older growths should be cut out, otherwise little or no pruning is necessary.

Rosa Gallica.—Roses belonging to this group are very fragrant, free growing, and suitable for the front of shrubberies. The shoots form roots readily if layered, and one plant may be made to form a large bush in this way. They bloom in early June. Good varieties are Surpasse tout, Duchess of Buccleuch, and d'Aguesseau. Pretty variegated sorts are Oeillet Parfait and Village Maid. Cut out the older growths in July, and prune lightly in March.

Austrian Briar.—The single yellow and copper are very beautiful, although their flowers are fleeting. Austrian Copper makes a good wall plant. Persian Yellow has blossoms of richest yellow. Harrisoni, with yellow blooms, makes a good hedge. Cutting out some of the older growths occasionally and cutting off the tips of the growths in March are all the pruning needed.

Scotch Roses.—The double white and double yellow are very beautiful. They make a nice low hedge or small bushes, and need the same pruning as the Austrian Briars. They bloom in May.

MONTHLY ROSE.—This is deservedly a favourite, for it is the freest flowering of all Roses, giving blossom throughout the summer. It makes a good low hedge, especially if the crimson variety is planted with it.

Among the species or wild types of Roses the following are especially noteworthy:—

GIANT SCOTCH ROSE (Rosa altaica).—Lemon coloured, blooms in May.

ROSA MACRANTHA.—Large, single, pale blush - coloured flowers.

Musk Rose (Rosa moschata).—A very vigorous climber, with beautiful grey-green leafage and large clusters of white fragrant flowers.

Rosa Pomifera.—Bears pink blossoms, which are succeeded by large red fruits.

ROSA ALPINA.—Blooms very early; has pink flowers, succeeded by long, drooping, orange-red fruits.

ROSA RUBRIFOLIA (ferruginea).—Depends for its beauty on the attractive reddish colouring of its shoots and greyish leaves.

Rosa xanthina.—A Siberian Rose with rich yellow single blossoms.

Rosa Polyantha (multiflora).—A vigorous rambler, with bunches of white single flowers.

These Roses need little pruning; when the plants get too dense some of the older shoots should be cut out. There is a splendid collection of Rose species in the Royal Gardens, Kew, and readers who wish to study them further should visit these famous gardens in May and early June.

#### CHAPTER IV

#### THE PAVED GARDEN

The fault of formal gardening is often not in the design, or even the planting, but in the spirit of unrest that marks the tending.

I have often wearied of terraces, ornamented at intervals with elegant stone vases; of balustrades cunningly designed or tastefully draped; of fantastic hedges that were a joy and delight to the gardener who tended them, and an undoubted tribute to his misapplied skill; of Yew and Box trained into the most grotesque shapes imaginable; even of the maze which is still a feature of some gardens. have listened with feigned interest to the reiteration of characteristic points, paid grudging tribute to the many and varied wonders of the formal garden, and have sighed for a glimpse of grassy ways leading between borders of hardy flowers; for a glimpse, too, of bowers of Roses. Above all, perhaps, for a bit of wild gardening, where, as in Nature's own garden of the fields and woods, the weakest go to the wall and only the fittest survive; where there is no uplifting of the weak, no repression of the strong. Yet, of all strange things the strangest, I have come to find perfect pleasure and real delight





in one of the most artificial of formal gardens—the paved or stone garden.

It is unusual nowadays for people to praise, or even to find beauty in, a formal garden, and I perhaps have been among the number to whom formal gardening has made little or no appeal. But as all gardens are to some extent formal, I have come to see that the ideal garden is that in which, upon a carefully planned foundation, although it may be purely artificial, the flowers, once planted, are left largely to the care of the wind and weather. The fault of formal gardening is often not so much in the design, or even the planting, but in the spirit of unrest that marks the tending. Time, the master gardener, tends the best of all.

I shall never forget those moments of ecstasy in which I had my first glimpse of the stone garden that has ever since seemed to me to be an example of perfect association between the natural and the artificial—Nature's exquisite building upon a prosaic and formal foundation. It still finds a treasured place within "the leaves of memory," and at times brings solace even in my dreams. For hours had I paid tribute to stone-encircled beds, gaily decorated with plants that scarcely had time to show what natural grace they possessed before the season was at hand for their removal, yet I had found no beauty in them. I had paid my meed of feigned admiration to closely clipped Box edging that was goodness knows how many generations old, and

really a wonder of its kind; to narrow, wriggling beds and borders, separated from each other by narrow paths with a still more pronounced wriggle and covered with loose gravel, unpleasant to walk upon and doubtless intended only to be looked at. Even when subsequently I had passed from these formalities and abnormalities to cool, broad terraces of soft and close-mown grass, and thence to winding paths, now climbing a steep slope between choice trees and shrubs, now descending through weaving masses of Bracken, "faint tinged with Autumn's brush," the impression still remained of that formal garden where Art and Nature were at loggerheads. And then, passing between a high stone wall and a hedge almost as high, I chanced upon this little fairyland.

Bounded on two sides by high walls, on the other two by a hedge or trellis of Siberian Crab, the stone garden of which I write seemed to offer few opportunities of such an altogether satisfying result as has been achieved. A sundial on a stone slab marks the centre; a circular grass plot surrounds the stone slab, and in its turn is margined by a flagged path. Low dry walls supporting the flower beds encircle the path, and rough stone steps lead from the centre north, south, east and west to other paved ways that give access to the beds of flowers. A paved path runs all round. Such, then, is the artificial foundation upon which a formal garden of much natural beauty has grown.

It is full of leaf and flower. The bounding walls are creeper covered; masses of Cerastium, yellow Alyssum, Aubrietia, Lavender and Rockfoil drape the low dry walls, and even the flagged paths abound in self-sown blossom. There is the Violet Cress (Ionopsidium acaule), with its pretty pale purple flowers; the tiny pale blue spires of Veronica spicata; Corsican Thyme and Mentha Requieni, fragrant in leaf and dainty in blossom; the creeping Veronica (repens), as well as Erinus, Herniaria and the close, leafy flower-studded veil of Sandwort (Arenaria balearica). Here Saxifrage, Arabis, or Aubrietia forms a compact clump; there two or three cluster in a little natural group; while some, more daring than the rest, and gaining confidence from numbers, have formed large tufts at the foot of the wall and, as though sighing for fresh worlds to conquer, seem to be making a vain attempt to climb it.

And the beds and border of this quaint little garden? Why, they are just full to overflowing with the sweetest old-fashioned flowers, chiefly of compact habit of growth, that can be got together. There is no room here for tall, straggling plants that, left to themselves, would soon smother their neighbours. This is a garden where the little plants are just as valuable as the big ones, and the selection must be made with care. Lavender, not the common kind of the wayside cottage garden, but a dwarf and compact sort (Lavendula spica nana), plays an important part, since, delightful as it is

THE PAVED OR STONE GARDEN AT HEWELL GRANGE, WORGESTERSHIRE.





Thus the stone garden shows its nakedness only in winter, and even then it is not altogether uninspiring, for the grey foliage of the Pinks, Lavender, and Cerastium, and the green of Rosemary, and perennial Candytuft are pleasant to look upon. While they conjure joyful anticipation of summer that is coming, they arouse also happy memories of the past.

Perhaps the most exquisite moments in the little stone garden come in summer at evening time, as you sit on the quaint white seat thoughtfully placed against the wall. The setting sun floods the garden with a radiant glow, investing leaves and flowers with a glamour all compelling that wafts you for the nonce to fairyland. There you sit and there you dream, until, as the sun sinks in the heavens and the garden loses its borrowed radiance, suddenly the spell is broken. Before you stands the sundial "on the swelling slope of a little mound." You remember the legend and regretfully you realise its truth:

"Happen what may and come what will, The wheel of time can never stand still."

## Flowers for the Paved Garden

FOR PLANTING IN THE BEDS.—Snowdrops, Crocuses, Daffodils and Tulips. Early-flowering bulbous Irises, e.g., reticulata, Histrio, histrioides, Krelagei, persica and Danfordiae. Spanish, English and Flag Irises. Japanese Primulas; Peachleaved Bell-flower (Campanula persicaefolia) and its white variety; Campanula Hendersoni; Forget-me-nots; Wallflowers; China Roses; Lavender; Rosemary; Shirley and Iceland Poppies; Violas or Tufted Pansies; Lily of the Valley;

Heuchera sanguinea and the newer cross-bred sorts; spring and summer Snowflakes; Scarlet Windflower (Anemone fulgens); Grecian, Apennine and Robinson's Anemones; Gentianella (Gentiana acaulis); Globe Thistle (Echinops Ritro); Sea Holly (Eryngium amethystinum); Garden or Seedling Pinks; Carnations; Musk; Sweet William; Love in a Mist (Nigella Miss Jekyll); Annual Scarlet Flax (Linum grandiflorum rubrum) and perennial Blue Flax (Linum perenne); Evening Primroses (Œnothera Youngi); Siberian Iris (Iris sibirica, Blue King and Snow Queen); Liliums, e.g. candidum, croceum, elegans Prince of Orange, chalcedonicum (Turk's Cap); Montbretias; Aster amellus and other dwarf Michaelmas Daisies; Outdoor Chrysanthemums.

FOR PLANTING ABOUT THE EDGE OF THE BED.—Aubrietias in variety, double white Arabis, Alpine Pinks, Lithospermum prostratum (a beautiful low-growing, blue-flowered plant); Saxifragas, including hypnoides, Wallacei, and Rhei superba, Saponaria ocymoides (crimson Soapwort), Campanula carpatica, C. garganica.

FOR PLANTING BETWEEN THE PAVING STONES.—Violet Cress (Ionopsidium acaule); Mentha Requieni, a tiny Mint with fragrant leaves; Veronica repens, a pale blue-flowered Speedwell, and Veronica pectinata, also with pale blue blossom. Others suitable, although growing rather taller, are the Alpine Forget-me-not (Myosotis rupicola), the blue Stonecrop (Sedum caeruleum), Ivy-leaved Toadflax (Linaria cymbalaria), and the rose-coloured Rockfoil (Saxifraga oppositifolia). Here and there one might have a few plants of silvery-leaved Wormwood; for example, Artemisia Villarsii, Piedmontana, and argentea.

There is little difficulty in forming a satisfactory paved path. It is an excellent plan to cover the soil with a layer of sand before the stones are laid, and to mix sand with the soil when the plants are put in between the stones. Some may prefer to have a perfectly dry path to walk upon, being content to plant in the beds and in the chinks of the low walls supporting them. Then it is best to have a layer of ashes, some 2 inches thick, beneath the stones. If the latter are laid closely together, a dry path is ensured. When plants are to be grown between the stones, ashes must not be used, and the stones are placed an inch or so apart.

#### CHAPTER V

#### FRAGRANT LEAVES AND FLOWERS

It is a sad thought that nowadays we may plant a garden unmatched for glorious colouring, and plant it with scentless flowers.

ONE may tire of garish colouring, of exquisitely turned petal and perfectly formed leaf. Colour schemes may cloy, but the garden that is fragrant will never lack appreciation. No quality in flowers strikes the chords of remembrance, the strings of imagination, with so true a touch as fragrance, and so in "memory" gardens we find sweet-scented flowers and fragrant leaves given prominence. The poetry of a garden as expressed by its sweet odours always makes special appeal to me, and under the spell of its glamour I have been tempted to cry:

Close-nestling leaves and subtle-scented flowers
That deepen joy and soothe the saddened hours
Of strenuous life with summer showers
Of fragrance, freely given,
Lend me your aid that I may find
Sweet solace for the troubled mind
In thoughts soft-echoing that bind
Unhallowed earth to heaven.

The fragrance-laden breeze, as it comes fresh from the caress of a Sweet Briar hedge, or touched

A LAVENDER HEDGE IN A WORCESTERSHIRE GARDEN.



ROSE CONRAD F. MEYER, ONE OF THE MOST FRAGRANT OF ALL.

with the faint scent gathered from Lavender blossom, awakens a world of tender memories. It may in a moment lift the veil of years, while we live again in dreams of happy days. A garden in which one cannot dream dreams, weave fancies and revive sweet memories under the spell cast by fragrance, is to me no garden at all, merely a collection of plants and flowers. And it is a sad, sad thought that nowadays we may, if we wish, plant a garden unmatched for glorious colouring, for vigour of growth, and profusion of blossom-in short, for effect—and plant it with scentless flowers. It is sadder still, in a way, to reflect that a generation ago we could scarcely have done it. It is a lamentable fact that many new Roses and nearly all new Carnations have little or no scent. As I have asked somewhere else, is it possible that we are drifting towards an age of scentless flowers, or, worse still, towards an age when we shall rest content with them and even appreciate them?

Even now. when a new Rose or Carnation lacks fragrance, we are apt to console ourselves with the knowledge that at any rate it is a good "doer." It grows well, it is immune from disease, its petals are of that standard of excellence that the florist demands, it blooms freely and continuously. Surely these qualities, good as they are, can be purchased too dearly.

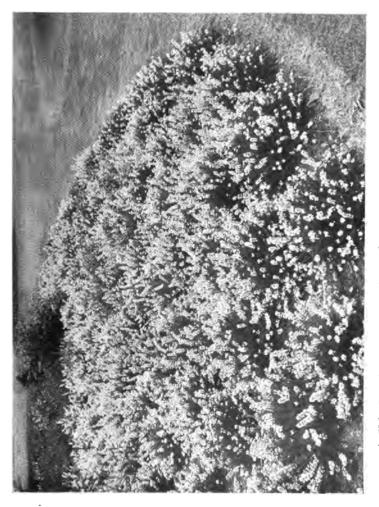
Only the other day (July, 1909) I was admiring a collection of Carnations which, for elegant form,

# CHAPTER VI

### A GARDEN OF HEATHER

The greatest charm of a garden of Heather is that it is never altogether without blossom.

IT was a little thing that resolved me to have a Heather garden of my own one day, if ever time and circumstances permit. It was just a tiny path in a garden on the Derbyshire moors, a path bordered on either side by the white variety of St. Dabeoc's or Irish Heath. A little thing, but I shall never forget it. It was one sunny September day, a day of Indian summer such as late September often brings; perhaps I was unduly susceptible to the charms of Heather, for I had had glimpses of glorious purple patches of Ling on the surrounding moors. At least, I am sure that it was quite the fairest garden picture I saw during a week spent in visiting gardens in the Midlands. Although only planted a year or two, and little bits when put out, the plants formed a broad, unbroken mass of leaf and flower, and encroached on the path in a delightfully informal manner, to such an extent here and there that there was scarcely room to pass between. Oh, that I had had my camera! I would have made a frontispiece of



A PLOWER BED PLANTED WITH THE WHITE CROSS-LEAVED HEATHER.



ROUGH STONE STEPS MARGINED WITH BELLFLOWERS, ROCKFOILS, PINKS, BTC.

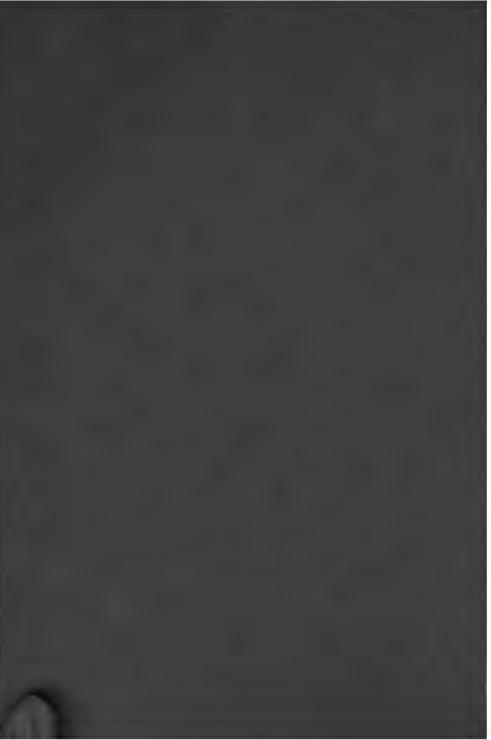
that little moorland garden. I can never see an exquisite bit of gardening such as this without wishing to take its photograph. It may be bad taste, perhaps, not to find full pleasure in the flowers themselves. I only know that it is very delightful and very satisfying to be able to bring out the photographs when beds and borders are bare of blossom. They help one to live again in the summer that is past, and speed one's thoughts to the flowers and the sunshine that are coming.

I have at present no Heather garden of my own, yet I have envied those who possess them and am able to advise all who have an opportunity to plant one. The ideal site is on rough and broken ground, such as one finds on the edge of a moor, where rocks and stones, often moss-covered and lichen-crested, crop up in such a perfectly natural manner as to fascinate the heart of the wayfaring gardener. Gently rising ground, with stones jutting out here and there and small winding paths, preferably of grass, that are continually lost to sight -those, I think, are first of all essential in making a garden of Heather. On higher ground there will be patches of Ling or common Heather (Calluna vulgaris), whose colour gains a kindlier tone through the distance. Fringing the paths and sometimes almost hiding them are the Irish Heath and its white variety (Daboecia polifolia and alba), at blossoming time masses of white and purple

A GARDEN OF HBATHIA

:





is familiar with the Cornish Heath, which is at its best in August and September; its purplish red flowers paint the western moorlands with wonderful masses of colour; this must surely find a place in our garden of Heather. The Scotch Heather (Erica cinerea) too, as represented by the type with crimson purple bloom, atropurpurea, purple, and atrosanguinea, deep red, must be included, since from July to October it is never out of flower. The Dorset Heath (Erica ciliaris) grows only about 9 inches high, so it needs planting quite in the foreground, or its pale red blossom, which is out from June until September, may be lost to view. Ouite the most wonderful of the smaller Heaths is Erica carnea, whose rose-coloured flowers open with the coming of the year, and progressing with the sunshine, soon smother the leaves that gave them birth.

Perhaps the greatest charm of a garden of Heather is that it is never altogether without blossom, if such a selection as I have named is planted. In mild weather in December and January Erica carnea and mediterranea hybrida are quite gay with blossom, and for winter blooming these are the two I recommend.

The manner of planting is all important. Each kind must be in masses, broad stretches that run into each other as naturally as we can coax them to do. A moorland edge should be in the mind's eye; the more closely we approximate our garden

to Nature's plan, the simpler and the more successful will it be. Everyone knows, I suppose, that Heather will not thrive in soil that contains much lime, yet comparatively few seem to realise that peaty soil alone is not essential. An ideal soil is certainly one consisting chiefly of peat, yet ordinary garden soil that is not too clayey will grow Heaths to perfection, if a fair quantity of peat or even leaf soil and sand is dug in. October is the best month for planting Heather, although it may be put in at any time during mild weather from October to April.

Shall we allow other plants in our Heather garden? I doubt if it is advisable. Broad masses of purple, rose and white, arranged as though they had spread naturally from small beginnings, clustering about and half embracing a miniature boulder here, smothering a baby rock there, and again stretching away and disappearing over the top of a tiny hill—these are difficult to improve upon; to import alien shrubs is to detract from the fascination of the Heather and to destroy its peculiar charm. Yet an occasional group of the pink blossomed Kalmia glauca, dwarf Rhododendron or Azalea, or a splash of colour from Autumn Crocus, where the Heather is thin, can, I think, do little harm; they give variety, and, after all, variety adds much to the interest of a garden.

# CHAPTER VII

#### GARDENING IN WALLS

The only way to ensure a successful show of flowers above is to provide a happy hunting ground for the roots below.

A FEW years ago I had the temerity to write a book about gardening in town and suburb. A critical weekly journal thought fit to entitle its review "New Ideas in Gardening," and, inter alia, pointed out that I had said nothing about gardening in walls. The reviewer proceeded to describe how wall gardening might be carried out with success, even in a town or suburban garden, and the following was the way in which this genius of a critic would have worked. It was suggested that sheets of galvanised iron should be fixed at a short distance—some 6 or 9 inches—from the wall or fence bounding the garden, and that the space between should be filled with soil. The galvanised iron was to be pierced at intervals with holes large enough to allow plants to grow through them. And my critic preferred this unspeakably hideous erection to a wall clothed with the soft greenery and glowing blossom of suitable plants such as I had recommended. As this writer in the same notes advised his readers "to shun Calceolaria like cancer

and Lobelia like leprosy," it is perhaps as well not to take his suggestions too seriously, much as one may admire his skill in alliteration. But the chief point to note is that this was put forward as a "New Idea in Gardening." If this is typical of others that one sometimes hears of as new ideas in gardening, may the gods preserve one from the necessity of ever having to put them into practice. I can assure the reader that this style of wall gardening (save the mark!) will find no support in the present chapter.

Wall gardening, or growing flowers in walls, is commonly spoken of as something new, yet there are wall gardens centuries old. Up and down the country there are walls tottering with age, and crumbling from the effects of exposure to the weather, where generations of seedlings have grown to planthood and so to blossoming, finally fading and shedding their seeds for the initiation of a new family of plants. Ivy, once safe set between the chinks, has grown gnarled and rugged within the gradually widening fissures until finally it smothers the wall from base to top, and itself preserves from dissolution that upon which once it relied for support. As time passes, a natural veil is thrown over artificial imperfections; the rough-edged stone grows warm with green moss or cool with grey lichen; seedling Fern, ubiquitous Snapdragon, solitary Rowan and wayward Bramble find safe though scanty foothold within its crumbling chinks. Thus

wall gardening is no new thing, no creation of the nineteenth-century gardener. The oldest of all natural gardens are those where stray seedlings have found a home in the cracks and fissures of weather-beaten rocks and in time have formed a garden there.

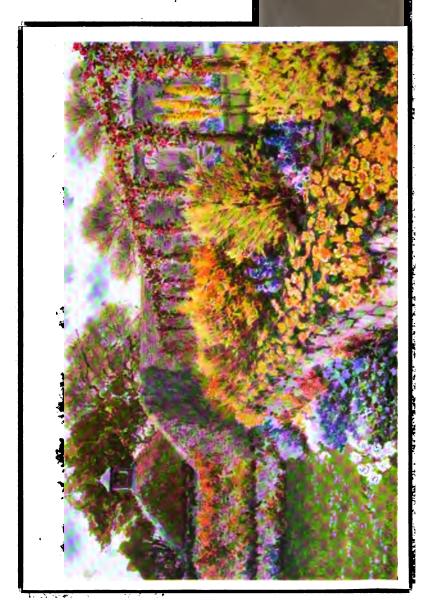
But cultivating flowers in walls with the same care that one grows flowers in beds and borders has only comparatively recently come into vogue. Now the wall garden in one or another of its several forms is scarcely ever absent from the up-to-date domain. One satisfactory point about wall gardening is that it may be done cheaply or expensively. It is suitable either for the small or the large garden; one may build high walls or low walls. There is, however, this common distinction: the wall, whatever may be its height, whether it is to cost little or much, must be a "dry" wall. A "dry" wall is one that is built without mortar or cement. Why it should be called a "dry" wall I do not know, since it is naturally much wetter than an ordinary wall. While the latter is so constructed as to keep out moisture, the former is built specially with the purpose of letting it in. But herein, I suppose, lies the solution of the mystery; this is only one of the many paradoxes that confront the amateur when he attempts to fathom the intricacies of the English language as expressed by gardening terms. When, for instance, he reads that he must "take" a Chrysanthemum bud, he is to understand

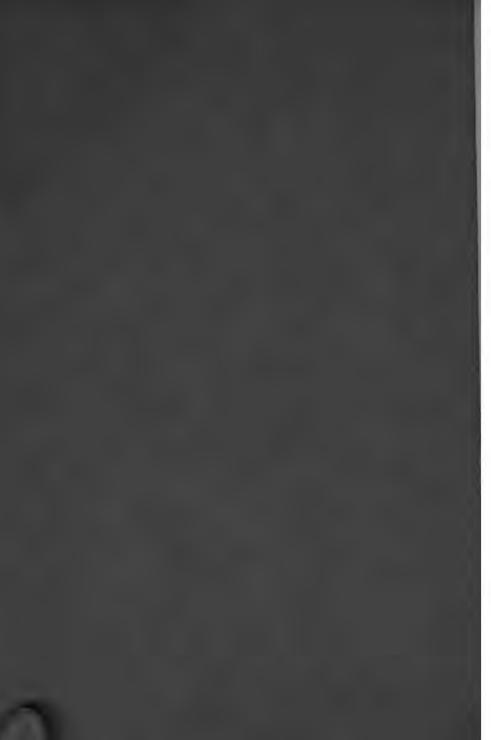
that on no account is it to be touched; on the contrary, the bud is to be preserved with special care, all those around it being *really* taken. The reader will now probably understand why a wall that has every opportunity of becoming wet is called a "dry" wall.

In a wall built for the cultivation of flowers, soil is used in place of mortar, and not only are the spaces between the stones filled with soil, but there should be a mass of soil behind the wall into which the plants may root. For, as in all kinds of gardening, the only way to ensure a successful show of flowers above is to provide a happy hunting ground for the roots below. A wall garden is commonly and preferably built against a bank of soil, and may, with the greatest advantage, face either east, south-east, or west. Generally, a north aspect is too cold and a south aspect too hot. The base of the wall should project beyond the top, so that when rain falls it may run into all the cracks and crannies, moistening the roots on its way. If the "face" of the wall were perpendicular it is easy to see that little or no moisture from falling rain would reach the crevices. The simplest way of planting is to put in the plants as the wall is built. The roots can be laid out to their fullest extent and every care taken to give them a good start. It is important to see that the fissures are well filled with soil right from the front to the back of the wall. The best times for planting are September and early April.

A "DRY" WALL PLANTED WITH BROOM, GORSE AND OTHER FREE-BLOOMING, STRONG-GROWING PLANTS.

A "DRY" WALL PLANTED WITH BROOM, COUNTY AND OTHER PRESSURE, STRONG-GROWING PLANTS.





A wall garden may be formed, if not entirely, at least very largely from seeds. The way to sow these is first to mix them with a little moist soil and put soil and seeds together in the chink destined to receive them. Fewer losses are experienced in this way than when the seeds are scattered in the niches of the wall and covered with soil. There is less danger of their being blown away or otherwise lost, and they have a better chance of germinating.

Some gardens already possess an old wall that with a little careful treatment may be transformed into an ideal home for flowers. Even the fact of its having been built with mortar makes less difference than one would think. While it is wise when building a wall so to arrange matters as to ensure the plants' success, it is surprising how well certain kinds will grow when and where there is apparently nothing to sustain them. By chipping out mortar from between the stones here and there, making each time as large a crevice as practicable and filling it with soil and seeds in mixture, quite a number of plants may be induced to take roothold and eventually to flourish. I remember having to deal with such a wall in an old-world village in Berkshire. Already it was moss-grown and lichen-covered, already it boasted a colony of wild grasses and occasional Snapdragon, but it was felt that such a grand old wall, its chinks in many places worn to crevices, offered such opportunities for flower growing as might not be neglected. So with white perennial Candytuft, with yellow Alyssum, Foxglove, and Verbascum, Aubrietia and Arabis, Pinks and Bellflowers, Wallflowers and Rockfoils, the old wall gradually came to fresh life with tufts of graceful leafage and sheets of brilliant bloom.

Another way of making a wall garden is to build a wall away from any bank of soil. In this case the wall is a double one; that is to say, a space to be filled with soil is left in the centre. Low broad walls are sometimes built in this way, and carefully set in the garden landscape, they form perfectly beautiful objects. Such a one comes to mind planted on the top solely with Gorse and Broom And what a glorious sight it was—

"Golden on a wild March day, Gold in sweet September, Golden, too, in silver May, Gold in grey November."

In this case the wall was planted throughout with strong growing plants, such, for instance, as Cistus and Rock Rose, Foxgloves and Chimney Campanula, Bugloss and Verbascum, St. John's Wort and Periwinkle, Ivy and Candytuft, together with many lovely Brooms—e.g. the Spanish Broom (Genista hispanica), André's Broom (Cytisus andreanus), the Moonlight Broom (Cytisus scoparius var. pallidus), and Spartium junceum.

Then there are the quite low walls with soil

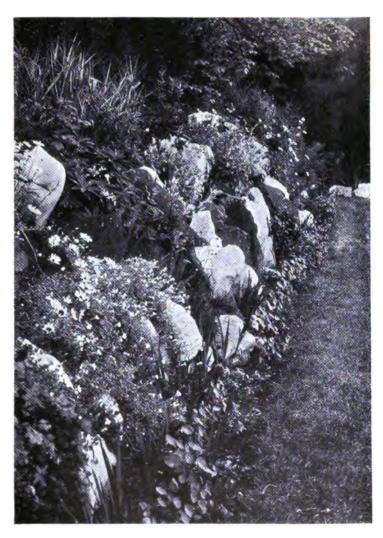
behind them. Many opportunities occur of building them. They are especially useful as retaining walls to beds in little formal gardens, and often are preferable to short and steep grass banks. These are a great trouble to keep neat and trim, and soon lose their value if allowed to become untidy. Exactly the opposite holds good with the "dry" wall. Little or no labour is required in tending once the planting is done, and within reasonable limits the more untidy it becomes the more attractive it is. And what opportunities the crannies offer for an almost illimitable number of plants—for Rockfoils in great variety, for Musk, Corsican Thyme, Wild Mint, Alyssum, and a host of others.

Another form of wall gardening to which I may draw attention is that of growing flowers in rough stone steps, such as are often to be found in gardens. The spaces between the stones provide an ideal home for a number of low-growing plants—the tiny Veronica spicata, Mentha, Erinus, and Violet Cress; while if there are stones also at the sides of the steps, the Balearic Sandwort will throw a close green veil of foliage about them, and in due season stud this with countless tiny pure white flowers. Arabis and Aubrietia in variety, if planted by the sides of the steps, will produce little rills of blossom that tumble down upon the latter in delightful fashion.

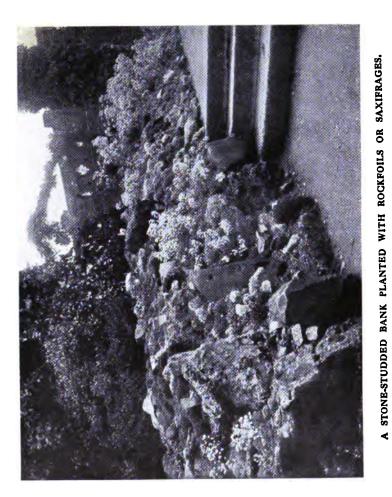
The rough stone-studded bank is also a variation

of the wall garden, and almost any of the plants recommended for the wall will grow there. As one of the illustrations shows, such a bank looks particularly well when planted with a collection of free-blooming Saxifrages, such as lantoscana, pyramidalis, Elizabethae, etc.

Finally, I come to the dry brick wall, which even the smallest garden may possess if the owner is so inclined. Old, not new bricks are used in its construction, and these are generally to be had pretty cheaply. Broken bricks do just as well as sound ones—in fact, a proportion of broken bricks is essential if the wall is to have as natural an appearance as possible. It is easily made, and I am quite sure there are few little gardens that would not derive an added interest from its inclusion. The low brick wall should preferably margin a path, although to allow for overhanging tufts it ought to be at least a foot away. Recently I saw a little garden—a garden within a garden—built in this way. It consisted of a series of low brick walls on varying levels. The walls were not continuous, but here and there merged gradually and naturally into a broad border of flowers. It is an easy matter to make up a bank of soil with either straight or curving "face" to suit local conditions, and it is equally simple to build a low brick wall to support it. The bricks are put in as the bank of soil is made up, spaces being left here and there for the insertion of plants. In a wall such as this it is best to plant



A WALL GARDEN PLANTED WITH PINKS, ANEMONES, BELL-FLOWERS, FERNS, AND OTHER FAVOURITES.



only those things that are showy and easily grown, as, for instance, Aubrietias, Alpine Pinks, Thrift, an occasional Foxglove, some of the stonecrops (particularly acre and rupestre), the tufted Rockfoil (Saxifraga hypnoides), a few Ferns, Periwinkle, perennial Candytuft, and Snow-in-Summer (Cerastium tomentosum). I have seen most charming effects, even in sunny suburban gardens, when such simple low walls have been draped with Cerastium, double white Arabis, and Aubrietia alone.

There is a world of delight in growing flowers in walls, and an inestimable pleasure in watching the behaviour of different kinds. Above all things the plants must be allowed to grow freely in their own wild way. It is not wise to attempt to grow fragile, tender plants in the wall, for luxuriant growth is one of the greatest charms of this style of gardening. Almost all common rock garden plants are suitable, those that form drooping masses, such as Aubrietia, Evergreen Candytuft and Cerastium, being very beautiful. Alpine Pinks are splendid wall plants.

## CHAPTER VIII

#### THE DUTCH GARDEN

If no beauty, then at least a quiet charm, and that is much to be thankful for.

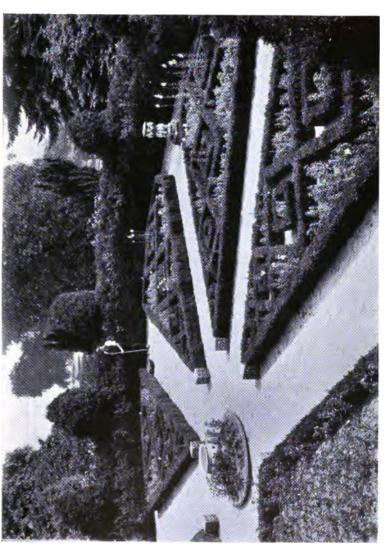
Why should not someone's dream of an ideal garden include that quaintest of old-fashioned gardens—a Dutch garden? In these days of free and natural flower arrangement it may seem a heresy to laud a Dutch garden. If so, then I must confess to being a heretic. I am sure there are others. Although there is nothing very beautiful, perhaps, about the prim and proper beds and borders with high box-edgings—some will tell you they are abominations—there is something oldworld and very quaint about them; and if no beauty, then at least a quiet charm, and that is much to be thankful for. The Dutch garden shown in the illustration was planted solely with white flowers—each bed containing only one kind. Those chiefly made use of were Snapdragon, Peach-leaved Bellflower, Carnation, White Rocket, Stock, China Aster, Japanese Anemone. Equally striking effects might be had by a planting of red, vellow, blue, or rose flowers. Simple, bold effects quite in keeping with the style of beds are thus

obtained. To plant such a garden as this with a flower mixture is, I think, not to make the most of it. Among suitable red flowers are Flax (Linum rubrum), Delphinium cardinale, Poppy Anemone, Anemone fulgens and Oriental Poppy, Carnations (Grenadin and Dundee Scarlet), Roses (Cramoisie Supérieure, Crimson China, and Marquis of Salisbury), the Tassel Flower (Collomia coccinea), Geranium Paul Crampel and Tuberous Begonia. Among suitable blue flowers are the Blue Flax (Linum perenne), Love-in-a-mist (Nigella Miss Jekyll), perennial and annual Larkspur, Chimney Bellflower (Campanula pyramidalis), Cornflower (Centaurea Cyanus), Commelina caelestis, Echium vulgare, Salvia patens, and Forget-me-nots. O suitable vellow flowers, one might plant Carnation Cecilia, and Daffodil, Evening Primrose, Viola, Calceolaría amplexicaulis, Roses (Harry Kirk, Mme. Ravary, Souvenir de Pierre Notting, and others), Globe Flower (Trollius europaeus). Other flowers of the several colours will suggest themselves; blue and yellow might be used in the scheme, or red and white; there are many possible variations. In a Dutch garden one could make a special feature of spring, summer, or autumn flowers, or fragrant flowers.

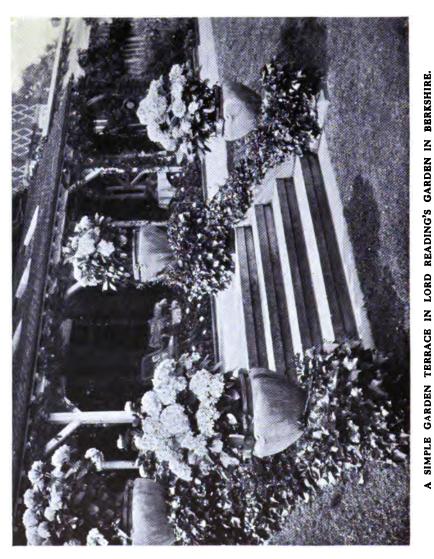
The garden illustrated is situated in an ideal spot for one of its kind. It is approached from high ground, and the entrance leads to a flight of steps, down which one has to pass to reach

the flower beds. One thus gets a first sight (and how lasting are first impressions!) of the Dutch garden from above. All formal gardens are seen at their best when looked down upon, and, incidentally, their worst when looked up to. It is as it should be, enclosed, the hedge in this case being of Yew. There are few garden ornaments, and those are of the plainest. All is simply fashioned; even the design, though formal, is not complicated.

One can scarcely hope that a garden such as this will make its appeal to many, yet my first glimpse of it as I came through the creeper-covered doorway and emerged on the top of the stone steps that lead to the quaint beds and gravelled walks wholly pleased me. Although one recognises that this kind of gardening has not the popular appeal of free and luxuriant masses of hardy flowers, I still treasure pleasant memories of that little Dutch garden hidden away among the trees and shrubs of a Worcestershire demesne.



THE DUTCH GARDEN AT HEWELL GRANGE, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE QUAINT BEDS ARE BORDERED BY BOX EDGING AND ARE PLANTED WITH WHITE FLOWERS.



# CHAPTER IX

#### FOR AND AGAINST BEDDING OUT

Unskilful bedding out has brought into disrepute some valuable flowers.

I THINK one of the most weighty objections ever brought against the now much maligned, though still widely practised, system of bedding out is that urged by Mr. William Robinson, who protested that the plants last too long in bloom. it may not be generally realised, it is largely due to this that "bedding out" has fallen from its high estate. If we think out the matter, we shall, I believe, come to the conclusion that Daffodils. Violets, Larkspurs, Pansies, Paeonies, Poppies, and other garden favourites, retain such a strong hold on our affections because we have them only when they are in season. But one may say that the Geranium is nearly always with us. From late May or early June, when the plants are put out, until October, when they are taken in, the unchanging green of their leaves, the familiar red of their flowers, stare us continually in the face, and it is little wonder that we tire of them. No flower can afford to outstay its welcome; this is what the Geranium, or correctly, Zonal Pelargonium, has done.

One can have little sympathy with the gardener referred to by Major Reginald Rankin, in "The Royal Ordering of Gardens," who is credited with the following:—

"I like to see my flowers grow
Like soldiers crowding on parade,
Not specimens on sentry go,
But regiments massed in full brigade."

Yet it is foolish to place all formal gardening in the same category. I can never believe that formal planting, even bedding out sometimes, has not its proper place in the garden scheme. I have in mind thoughts of stately homes whose austere design and forbidding front seem to look to the garden for, or even demand from it. some relief in bold masses of colour. It is difficult to believe that a "Mixed Border," a border of free-growing, hardy flowers, would meet the need better than formal beds filled with gaudy, formal flowers. Supposing it does not, no good reason is provided for making formal gardens where plainly enough they are out of place. Every flat piece of land in front of a house need not be turned into a terrace planted with beds and borders to match, those of one side coinciding in colour and form with those on the other, yet this is frequently done without regard to the design of the house.

It would be far better, as a rule, to plant sweetsmelling flowers and climbing plants in the border

at the foot of the house; in the terrace corners to put Mulberry and Medlar, Laburnum and Yulan; to plant Weeping Roses and low-growing shrubs in the beds, placing between them some homely flowers, with plants evergreen and evergrey, such as Lavender, Rosemary, Pinks, Artemisia, St. John's Wort, and Saxifrage. There would then be something of interest to bring one, at any rate, to the window, if not out of doors, even in the roughest weather.

However much we may dislike the bedding-out system, we cannot deny the convincing colour display of a bed filled with a good Geranium, some of the many beautiful Begonias, and other flowers continually made use of. There is no doubt as to their value when skilfully placed. Bright shades of red show best amid dark surroundings, and if placed on the lawn where it encroaches for a moment on the shrubbery, a group of Henry Jacoby or Paul Crampel Geranium might pass muster even in a strictly informal garden. One need not apologise for a bed of Begonias, as one almost has to do for Geraniums nowadays; there is little to excel them for providing rich colour in a shady spot. The truth is that unskilful bedding out has brought into disrepute some valuable flowers. If used again in a rational way, these would soon regain some of their former popularity.

Those mixed beds of flowers and foliage, generally referred to as mixed bedding, seem to me to be far more worthy of condemnation than a plain, straightforward bed of bright Geraniums, that, at any rate, strikes a note of rich colour in the gardenscape. A more higgledy-piggledy association I have never seen than some examples of mixed bedding; truly this style is well named. A simple bed of Snapdragon, Calceolaria, Helichrysum (everlasting), Verbena, Begonia or Geranium is far better than a meaningless muddle of leaf and blossom. Colour masses are necessary in every flower garden of fair size, and simple beds filled with simple half-hardy flowers, while attractive in themselves, also offer variety from the borders of hardy plants. Used sparingly in this way, little, I think, can be urged against bedding plants; it is when they are used falsely, massed in lines and made to work out grotesque designs that have nothing to do with real gardening, or grouped in ultra-formal and tasteless fashion—it is then that they get a bad name for themselves.

### CHAPTER X

### OCTOBER LEAVES AND FLOWERS

"The sweet calm sunshine of October now
Warms the low spot, upon its grassy mould
The purple Oak leaf falls; the birchen bough
Drops its bright spoil like arrow-heads of gold."

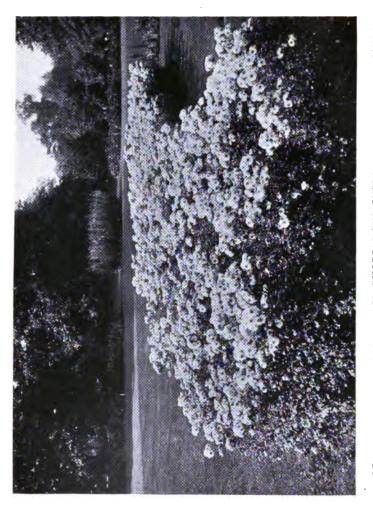
THE garden in October is a closed book to many, yet on a sunny day its pages unfold unending delight to those who care to turn the leaves. flowers, as though in farewell greeting, open wide to the welcome sunshine, the dank grass dries, the colouring trees glow with unwonted radiance; again the water surface, opaque beneath cloudy skies, mirrors scenes of light and shadow. Playing hideand-seek among the woodland trees the sunbeams weave strange and mobile patterns across the grassy glades mosaiced with coloured leaves. Azaleas, aglow with red and rose as though the shoots were giving birth to glorious blossom, instead of whispering words of grief to passing leaves; Poplars, spires of pale gold; the Tulip tree clothed in majestic beauty such as spring and summer never knew; and Hickory, one vast flush of russet and gold-these and others light the landscape with an eerie glow. By the water side the last

of the Flame flowers (Tritoma), Michaelmas Daisies and Dahlias, the pale yellow of the once golden Elder, the now ragged leaves of the giant Gunnera, the now rusty foliage of Siberian Iris that once kept company with pale blue blossoms—these are but faint shadows on the water surface. The Pampas Grass, its white feathery plumes gently waving in the breeze, shows grandly against a background of dark shrubs; it is never more beautiful than on a sunny day in October.

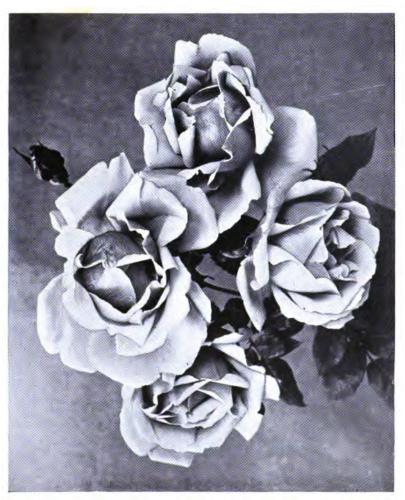
Now more than ever we realise the charm of tree trunks, the smooth slate grey of the Beech, the white of the Birch, the rugged green and brown of the Oak and Elm and Sweet Chestnut, the orange and brown of the Scots Fir. Too often we plant them where their stems are hidden, and so, "when the year smiles," we miss that wonderful association that only October shows—the fading falling leaves and reappearing stems.

Shrubs with variegated leafage now show their best; strangely enough, they are among the last to fade and die. The variegated Siberian Dogwood with red stems and green and white leaves, the gold and silver Elaegnus, Spaeth's golden variegated Dogwood—all have an added value in the evening of the dying year.

And the grey-leaved shrubs, how welcome they are, and, too, how little grown. Atriplex Halimus is one of the best of all. Its spreading shoots are clothed in soft grey leaf. Atriplex Nuttali and



OCTOBER FLOWERS—A LAWN BED FILLED WITH CHRYSANTHEMUM WHITE SAINT CROUTTS, ONE OF THE VERY BEST FOR OUTDOOR PLANTING



ROSES GATHERED LATE IN OCTOBER—GRAND DUC ADOLPH DE LUXEMBOURG, BLUSH WHITE WITHOUT, VIOLET RED WITHIN.

Breweri which makes a shrub 5 or 6 feet high, have also a quiet charm. Suaeda fruticosa, an elegant little plant of upright growth; Lavandula spica, more attractive now than the common Lavender (vera), and even the Sage (Salvia officinalis)-all greyleaved plants give welcome colour to the shrubbery border. Cool leaved in summer, their tone is warm in the chill autumn days. Among the Orange Ball trees, whose blossoming season is past, one is still worthy of notice, the Afghan Buddleia paniculata, a spreading bush with pleasant grey leaves.

Among berried plants none light up more brightly in the waning sunshine than Crataegus mollis and Cotoneaster rotundifolia. The former is one of the best of the Thorns with brilliant red fruits like little Crab Apples; the latter is one of the Rocksprays, and its dark shoots wreathed with small deep green leaves are studded with scarlet fruits. But perhaps the most precious of the berried plants is the Sea Buckthorn (Hippophae rhamnoides), whose grey-leaved shoots are full of lovely orange-coloured berries. The Pernettya is a charming little berried shrub that is now at its best: the fruits are of various colours, but I think the pink is the brightest.

We may find a measure of delight in the lustrous leaves of Magnolia grandiflora, which is evergreen, or even in those of the deciduous Yulan, which show no sign of age. The former are especially handsome—bright, shining green above and russet brown beneath.

And what of the October flowers? Ah! they are almost as numerous as the leaves. To say nothing of the last of the Dahlias and Michaelmas Daisies, there are fresh and fragrant Roses. Caroline Testout is as gay as in September, and that is giving high praise. Madame Ravary, Madame Lambard, Viscountess Folkestone, G. Nabonnand, La France, Gruss an Teplitz, still give welcome blossom, but the Rose I would plant for October blossoming is Grand Duc Adolphe de Luxembourg. The National Rose Society's list describes it as "rosy white with violet red reverse: very free flowering." But this does not reveal its charm. Inside the petals are blush, outside they are violet red; thus the bud shows nothing but the deeper colouring, while the open flower is nearly white. The effect of a mass of buds and blossoms is perfectly beautiful. It was on October 10th that I first saw this Rose, and for bounty of bloom it would not have disgraced the month of June. The blue Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles is still beautiful in October; it is fairly well known, and makes an admirable bush. Other varieties of Ceanothus not so familiar are Perle Rose, rose coloured: Arnoldi, pale blue; and Ceres, lilac-coloured. They give plenty of blossom in the waning year. Ceres is especially good.

One of the St. John's Worts (Hypericum patu-

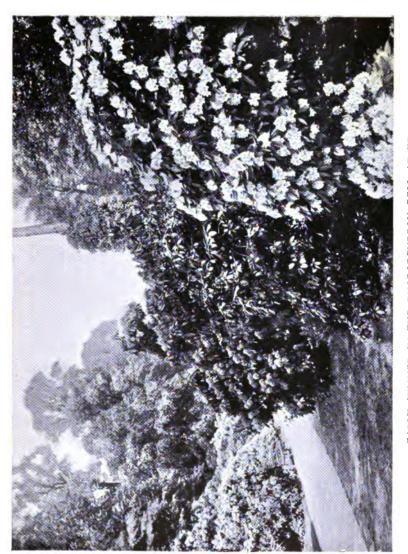
lum), growing about 2 feet high, bears its large golden blossoms freely at this season; it is a gay little shrub and well worth noting. Another St. John's Wort (Hypericum calycinum), planted as a ground covering in shady places where little else will grow, still bears a number of its showy yellow flowers. Even the Gum Cistus is not without a few white crimson-spotted blooms.

# CHAPTER XI

#### RHODODENDRONS AND AZALEAS

Rhododendrons never look their best on level ground; they should be grouped on an irregular surface where they may be looked down upon and looked up to.

THE Rhododendron or Rose Tree is perhaps the most fascinating of all our hardy evergreen flowering shrubs. In some gardens it is planted too freely and carelessly; in others it is scarcely planted at all. There are many most beautiful sorts in cultivation, and there are many whose flowers are unattrac-It is pleasant to see that the old kind, Rhododendron ponticum, once so common (and still invaluable for planting as undergrowth in the woodland), is being superseded by the fine named varieties. Some of the named varieties are of harsh, unpleasant colouring, and it is easy to create discordant effects if varieties are not chosen with care. Those of magenta and dull rose purple shades should be avoided. Rhododendrons never look their best on level ground; they should be grouped on an irregular surface where they may be looked down upon and looked up to. They never look better than when covering the sides of a dell or lake. One of the happiest examples of Rhodo-



BARLY SUMMER IN THE RHODODENDRON DELL AT KEW.



RHODODENDRONS MASSED BY A GARDEN PATH.

dendron grouping is at Kew; the Rhododendron dell there is a glorious sight during May and June, and not to see it then is to miss one of the most exquisite flower displays imaginable. However, it is not everyone who has a dell ready to hand, and to make one is quite an undertaking. Even on fairly level ground it is possible to improve matters by judicious planting. Let the lower part of the garden be chosen, and preferably that which is slightly shaded. The gorgeous blossoms never look their best in full sun, neither, of course, do they last so long in beauty. The Rhododendron is suited to planting as a single specimen, grouping in beds, or massing in big natural clumps. Those who care to sacrifice the form of the plant for the sake of a mass of brilliant bloom may allow the plants to grow together, forming, as it were, one huge bush. Owners of comparatively small gardens will, no doubt, prefer that each plant shall show its grace of outline, and plant and prune accordingly.

It is, I think, now commonly recognised that Rhododendrons will grow in any ordinary good garden soil that is free from lime. While peat is beneficial it is not essential. Many nurserymen making a special feature of these plants grow them in ordinary loam soil. Moist, loamy, well-drained soil suits them well. An invaluable aid to success is provided by a top dressing, 4 or 5 inches deep, of half rotted leaves placed loosely on the surface soil in spring. Rhododendrons are largely shallow

rooting plants, and an annual top dressing of this character is of great benefit.

It is important to remove the old flower heads, to prevent the formation of seed and encourage good growth. If the plants are allowed to seed they do not grow well. They require practically no pruning, beyond the removal of shoots that threaten to destroy the symmetry of the bush. This work is carried out in June, or as soon as the flowers are over. It is best, though it is not always possible, to obtain plants raised from layers, and therefore on their own roots. If the plants are grafted on the stock of the common kind, as many are, the sucker growths must be pulled up.

The accompanying illustrations give a fair representation of the beauty of Rhododendrons in bloom, in the mass and as single bushes. There are innumerable varieties in commerce, of which the following form a good selection: Lord Palmerston, rosy crimson; Everestianum, lilac rose; Kate Waterer, crimson; Pink Pearl, the finest of all, with large, exquisite, rich pink blooms; Gomer Waterer, white, with pink flush; Sappho, white, with dark spots; Michael Waterer, scarlet crimson; Mrs. William Agnew, rose; John Waterer, bright red; Mrs. John Clutton, white; Mrs. Tom Agnew, white, with lemon blotch; Lady Eleanor Cathcart, pink. Rhododendron nobleanum, red, is the earliest of all, and is usually in bloom in January; in fact,



A SPLENDID BUSH OF RHODODENDRON LADY ELEANOR CATHCART,



JUNE IN THE AZALEA GARDEN.

it is not uncommon to see this plant in full blossom while its leaves are under snow.

Hardy Azaleas are among the most gorgeous of June flowers. The colour shades are unsurpassed for brilliance and variety. Many hybrid sorts in bewitching colour shades are now obtainable. Azaleas prefer a peaty soil, but they thrive well in ordinary garden land if plenty of rotted leaves are dug in and applied as a top dressing, as recommended for Rhododendrons. In poor soil both Rhododendrons and Azaleas are much improved by a top dressing in spring of cow manure. It is advisable to remove the dead flowers, otherwise seed pods form freely, to the detriment of the plants. Azaleas are now classed as Rhododendrons; while the latter are evergreen, the hardy Azaleas lose their leaves.

## CHAPTER XII

### A ROCKERY BORDER

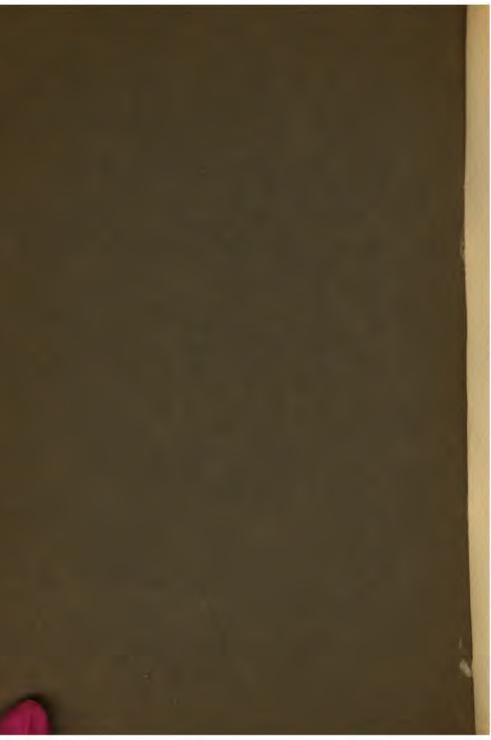
Most Alpine plants are perfectly hardy, and will thrive in this country, even in a border.

Growing Alpine flowers is one of the most fascinating of all branches of gardening, yet it is usually the last to be taken up by the possessor of a garden. Why is this? Chiefly, I believe, because of the erroneous impressions that prevail. It seems to be commonly believed that mountain flowers can be grown only in association with fantastically designed arrangements of rocks, set up at great expense, as though the mere presence of rocks could make any difference to their growth! Most Alpine plants are perfectly hardy, and will thrive in this country, even in a border. They are grouped in the rock garden merely for the sake of convenience and of appearance. It would be idle to deny that they look their best in a skilfully planned rock garden; they certainly do, but this is not to say that an elaborate structure is essential for their cultivation. admirably, for instance, they thrive when grown in flower pots and brought into an unheated But the cultivation of mountain greenhouse! flowers has for so long been associated in the



· ACCALRY LORDER FOUNDED WITH ALPINE PLOWERS.





minds of amateurs with expensive rock gardens, that they are slow to recognise the fact that many of them are as easily grown as border flowers. Some, in fact, are so used, as for instance, Saxifraga hypnoides, Rhei, and others. Sedums, Perennial Candytuft, Cerastium or Snow in Summer, and those two exquisite blue flowers Gentianella and Lithospermum prostratum.

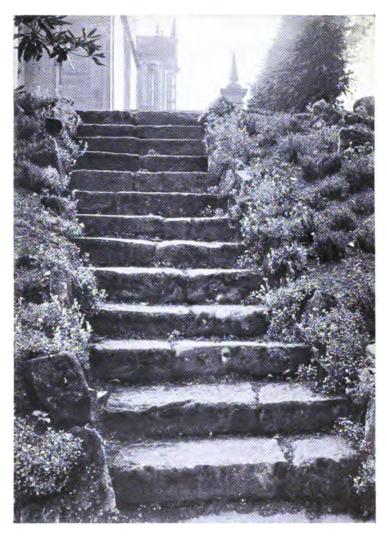
It does not follow that because Alpine plants have their home high in the mountains that they will grow only in elevated regions. They have found a home on the mountains because tree vegetation there is practically non-existent, and they have not to struggle for existence. But some Alpine flowers are found growing wild in lowland districts. The exquisite spring Gentian, that makes patches of brilliant blue among the Alps of Southern Europe, I have found in the Tees valley in Yorkshire, where it thrives perfectly.

Imbued with the idea that Alpine plants need a rock garden, and being unable to afford this luxury, many amateurs think to effect a compromise by building a rockery, and as often as not a rockery is another name for a higgledy piggledy, meaningless collection of stones and soil. It is far better to forego any attempt at building, unless a rock garden proper can be afforded, and grow these lovely plants on the flat. It is possible to have an Alpine garden without building a rock garden. And this is the burden of my theme—a rockery border or bed.

Such an Alpine garden costs little and, if suitable plants are chosen, may be a real source of delight. It is wise to have the surface raised above the surrounding ground, and there must be good drainage. Many Alpines, while not injured by severe cold, are unable to withstand excessive moisture.

A simple way of making a rockery border is to dig out the soil to a depth of, say, 18 inches, putting a layer of broken bricks at the bottom for drainage. A mixture made up of two parts turfy soil and one part peat with plenty of sand intermixed, replaces that taken out. If the garden soil is good, one need not go to this trouble even; it would be sufficient to dig in some peat and sand. A few rough pieces of rock, sandstone preferably, are arranged here and there, allowing them to crop up in as natural a manner as possible. More soil is then added so as to raise the surface of the bed some 10 inches or so above the ground level. A few large rough stones placed about the margin so as to support the soil, and a few large flat pieces of rock arranged as stepping stones between the flowers, complete the formation of the Alpine garden.

It is necessary, at any rate at first, to choose only those plants that are "good doers," or in other words, that give of their best in return for ordinary care. One's knowledge will grow à mesure with the interest and care displayed, and other plants may be added later. Even if subsequently it is



ROUGH STONE STEPS MARGINED WITH ARABIS, AUBRIETIA, AND OTHER FREE GROWING ROCK PLANTS.



BLOOMING PLANTS.

decided to build a rock garden proper, the rockery border does not represent so much time and money wasted. On the contrary, it forms an ideal approach to a more pretentious garden of Alpine flowers.

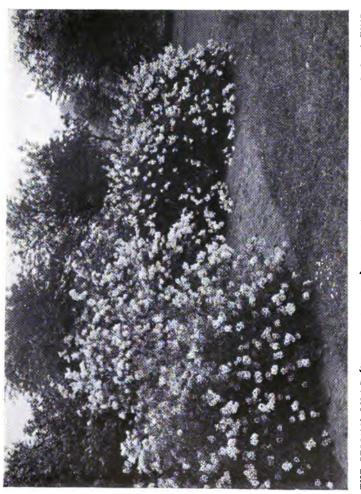
## CHAPTER XIII

#### LILAC - TIME

Most bewitching of all the lilacs is the Persian, giving a cloud of grey-blue blossoms that almost smother the slender shoots that gave them birth, and fill the air with fragrance.

LILAC-TIME is a fragrant borderland between spring and early summer; it comes when winter's harsh wind, soothed in the gentle lap of spring, has softened to a balmy breeze, when the sky has lost its cold, grey face in a dome of smiling blue, when every twig and every shoot on every tree is a tender, leafy green, and from the lips of a thousand flowers sweet, strange odours fill the air. Rightly to appreciate the delights of lilac-time, go out when the dew is on the grass, when the awakening sun, as it dries night's teardrops from each lilac thyrse, sets free a fragrant breath that comes as it were from a perfumed fairyland.

Most bewitching of all the lilacs is the Persian, giving a cloud of grey-blue blossoms that almost smother the slender shoots that gave them birth, and fill the air with fragrance. Yet how seldom they who laud the gaudy bloom-bunches of the purple Charles X or the bold flower-clusters of Marie Legraye, and fill the shrubbery with these



THE PERSIAN LILAC (SYRINGA PERSICA), A BEAUTIFUL THOUGH LITTLE GROWN KIND THE PRODUCES A PROFUSION OF BLOSSOM.

A PRIMROSE DELL IN A GARDEN IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

and others of their kind, ever find even an odd corner for this, the most exquisite of all. While it is satisfactory to know that many good flowers are widely grown, it is disquieting to find that better are neglected. The garden lover of taste is rarely attracted by gaudiness alone; he finds beauty in soft and restful tones, appreciates charm of leaf as well as beauty of blossom, and finds greatest delight in a true and natural association of both. Thus it is that old-world flowers never lose their power to please; they are as Nature fashioned them. Each quality is in just proportion; there is no garish display of blossom above sparse and stunted growth. We should find pleasure in the plant as a whole, and not in its parts.

There is no Lilac so graceful as the old Persian, now almost the only true species, or wild type, that is grown. And, alas! it is being pushed into the background by varieties distinguished only for size and brilliant colouring and not for grace of form or outline. Yet in an ideal garden beauty of form should find consideration. But it would ill become a gardener to quarrel with the many fresh colour-mixtures now available for his brush; rather should he, while making good use of them, strive to remember that a garden gay is not necessarily a garden beautiful. An ideal garden is not made with flowers alone: it is formed only when plants are considered as plants and not merely as flower-givers. After all, the flowering season of a plant is

short, and how is a garden to be ideal if one finds pleasure there only when it is in bloom? Let us, then, not ignore the Persian Lilac (Syringa persica), which, rightly regarded, is loveliest of them all. It has pale lilac-blue flowers, and there is a pure white variety. Another Lilac that is unworthily neglected is the Rouen Lilac (Syringa chinensis), more vigorous than the Persian and more free flowering, though with smaller blooms than the large named florists' kinds.

How rarely do they who have Lilacs in their shrubbery ever prune them! Perhaps it is because they do not understand how or when the pruning should be done. The proper time is as soon as the flowers are over. Pruning takes the form of thinning out the weak and oldest shoots, so that due encouragement may be given to the young growths, which produce the finest flowers. A complaint often urged against the Lilac is that it is shortlived, yet there is no good reason why it should be. When such is the case, more often than not it is because the plants are grafted on the Privet. should be procured either on their own roots or grafted on the common Lilac. When the latter is the stock, care is necessary to pull up the sucker growths that are pretty sure to make their appear-The Lilac is easily increased by cuttings and by detaching, in autumn, suckers that spring up about the base of plants that have not been grafted. The cuttings, about 9 inches long, are taken in

6

October from well-ripened growth, and are inserted firmly in garden soil in a frame. The suckers have roots already, and may be planted out on a reserve border, there to be "grown on."

Among the best single varieties may be mentioned Marie Legraye and alba grandiflora, white; Charles X, reddish lilac; Gloire de Lorraine, deep purple; Souvenir de Louis Spaeth, purplish red; Doctor Van Regel, light blue; Philemon, deep purple; and Lovanensis, lilac pink.

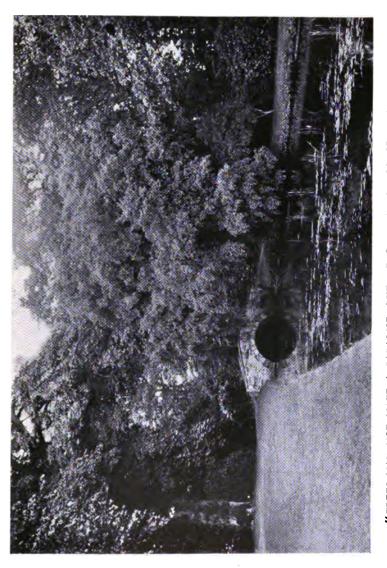
Some good double sorts are President Grévy, light blue; Lamarque, blue; President Carnot, lilac pink; Mme. Casimir Perier, creamy white; Alphonse Lavallée, bluish red; Mme. Lemoine, white.

## CHAPTER XIV

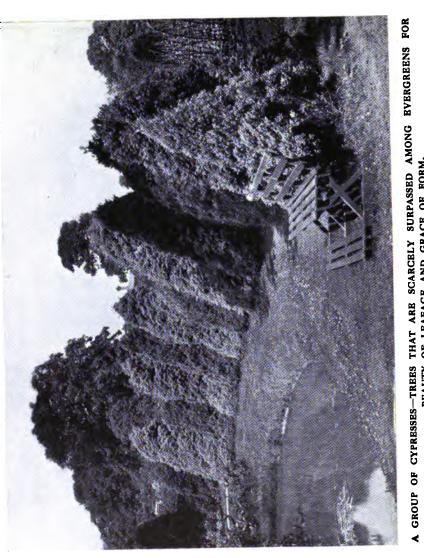
#### TREES IN THE GARDEN

No plant can come to perfect beauty except in its own full time.

"Trees may not make a Paradise, but we can hardly conceive a Paradise without trees." It is not unusual to meet with amateurs possessing a wide knowledge of flowers, yet quite ignorant on the subject of trees; this attitude is symbolic of the neglect with which trees are regarded to-day, even by those who profess to be ardent lovers of a garden. This neglect is probably largely owing to the prevailing desire for quick effect, for early resultsthe undue haste that characterises almost everything to which we turn our hand nowadays. We plant by the thousand Roses and other quick growing plants that come early to blossom, but we plant stately trees only on rare occasions. We garden selfishly, without thought for the future; more often than not we plant this year that we may have blossom the next. We have no thought of guiding the garden to a perfect beauty, such as comes only after many years. We are not content to paint the picture little by little, pausing every now and then to find out whether or not we are working in the



"TREES MAY NOT MAKE A PARADISE, BUT WE CAN HARDLY CONCEIVE A PARADISE WITHOUT TREES."



BEAUTY OF LEAFAGE AND GRACE OF FORM.

right direction, with a due proportion of restful colouring—of tender green and cool soft grey. We daub on the colour in rich patches, bringing the picture to a conclusion in the shortest possible time, or even make of it a snapshot photograph, instead of a masterpiece that should take a lifetime to complete, and even then perhaps still remain unfinished.

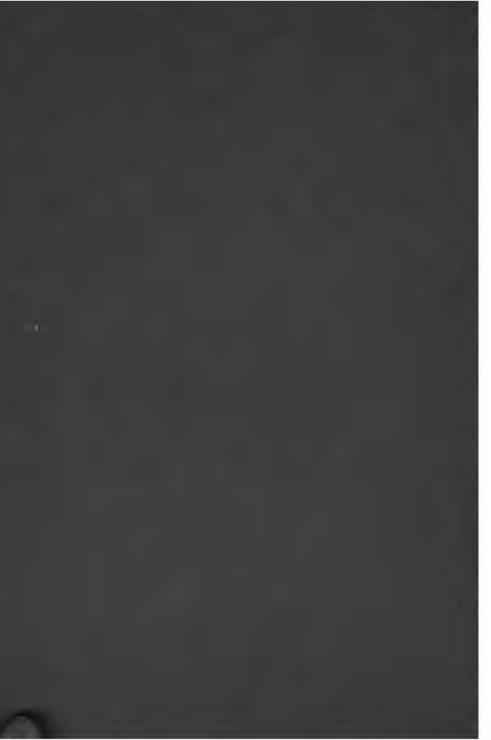
This attitude towards garden making is typical of the age in which we live. We take no thought for the morrow so far as our gardens are concerned; or if we do, we decide that the morrow may take care of itself. It is disquieting to think that such a spirit should prevail in garden planning and planting, but that it is true none can deny who have had opportunity for observation.

Do we want a hedge? We plant green or golden Privet or Thorn instead of Holly or Yew, unmindful that the latter form a hedge incomparable for dignity and stateliness, restfulness and usefulness, and having regard only to the fact that the former provide a screen in the shortest possible time. Do we wish to make a lawn? We put down turf that it may the more quickly form greensward, forgetful that a lawn from seed is to be preferred. And in planting a Rose garden we put in two plants where there is only room for one, so that there shall be "no time lost" in covering arch or arbour, trellis or pergola, or in making a flower show of a bed or border, again unmindful that no plant can

# RHODODENDRONS BY THE WATER SIDE.

From a water colour dia cont by Bestere Dies co.)





best Conifers. Their objections would be lost in admiration.

## Conifers

I suppose everyone knows and finds fault with the gloominess of Lawson's Cypress (Cupressus lawsoniana), and I do not deny that it has no special attractiveness. But how many of those who decry Lawson's Cypress know that there are at least six most beautiful varieties—ornamental trees. with bright and pleasant leafage that would transform the average shrubbery? No trees or shrubs give such a distinctive aspect to a garden as carefully grouped Conifers. Possibly it is owing to their absence that so many gardens are not distinguished. The presence of choice Conifers in a garden of moderate size may be taken to indicate that the owner is not only a keen gardener but a discriminating one. He recognises that an Ideal Garden is not made with flowers alone. If he grows good Conifers, it is pretty certain that he is not unmindful of other choice plants too. One sees scores of gardens with a shrubbery planted with a few of the commonest flowering shrubs, such as Hawthorn, Laburnum, Prunus Pissardi, Lilac. and so on; but beautiful though these are, one cannot say that there is anything distinctive about them.

Of these handsome varieties of Lawson's Cypress, Alumi is, I think, the best for the garden of quite moderate size where space is a valuable consideration; it makes a tall slender tree of column-like growth and has most beautiful light grey foliage. I measured a specimen that was 18 feet high, yet at the base it was only 4 feet through. The small garden could contain no more striking tree, or one growing so high that takes up so little space laterally. And in common with most Conifers, this is attractive all the year round. The glaucous variety of Lawson's Cypress forms a perfect pyramid, and has rather small though attractive grey-blue foliage. Californica, with large, loosely disposed and elegant grey-green leafage, is particularly handsome. Argentea is a beautiful tree. I have rarely seen a lovelier mass of leafage than this variety of Lawson's Cypress: it makes a tall dense tree. a tree of exquisite light grey leaves. Amabilis, which has drooping leaves, light golden green at the ends, is one of the most distinct. Filifera has light green foliage, and the growths terminate in long thread-like streamers. Lutea has bright yellow leaves, and should be sparingly planted or a "spotty" effect might result. I must not omit to mention the green-leaved erecta viridis, whose narrow upright habit of growth makes it especially suitable for a small garden.

I think the most attractive Conifer I know, or at least quite one of the most charming of all, is Cupressus pisifera squarrosa (oh! for a homely name!). It has small feathery-like foliage of an exquisite light grey shade, like the bloom on a perfectly finished plum; it makes a dense bushy tree. The Monterey Cypress (Cupressus macrocarpa) and its yellow variety are two particularly attractive Conifers. They are especially well suited to seaside gardens, though they grow well enough inland in southern counties. Among other Cypresses of upright, columnar growth and elegant leafage are thuyoides (green-leaved) and its variety glauca (grey-leaved); the latter is of interest in that it is the whitest of the glaucous-leaved Conifers I have seen.

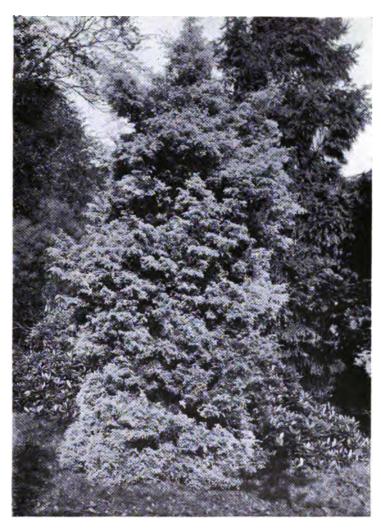
I scarcely dare mention the Yew, which is quite the gloomiest of all Conifers and not to be generally recommended. Yet I do so to bring to notice the pretty variety called adpressa; this has small leaves and a semi-drooping habit of growth. The light green ends to the dark green shoots provide a nice contrast that is enhanced when the tree is in berry. Those who care for variety may plant the yellow-berried Yew. The upright-growing golden Yew (aurea fastigiata) is admirably suited to small gardens.

Among the Pines I should give pride of place to the Bhotan Pine (excelsa), which is among the most graceful and pleasing of all. It has slender, grey drooping leaves, and in a young state is one of the most graceful trees I know. Picea Morinda from the Himalaya, too, merits notice. It is quite distinct, with grey rather than green leaves;

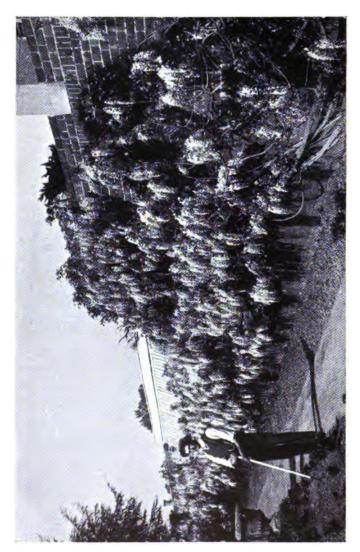
although this tree is of erect habit, the foliage droops. One rarely meets with the Servian Spruce (Picea Omorica); yet it is an elegant tree, of perfect cone shape, and has pleasant green foliage. The deciduous Cypress (Taxodium distichum) is well suited to planting near water, where, indeed, it thrives best. It has attractive light green feathery foliage, and its autumn tints are very beautiful. The Japanese Cryptomeria elegans, although not of very shapely form, has exquisite blue-green leafage.

Other Conifers of note are Abies parryana with handsome glaucous foliage; Cedrus Deodara and Cedrus atlantica glauca, two beautiful Cedars; the Blue Spruce (Abies pungens glauca), a most attractive tree with blue-grey foliage; Wellingtonia gigantea; Libocedrus decurrens, of pillar-like form and with dark leafage; and the Maiden-hair Tree (Ginkgo biloba), unsurpassed for charm. Its clear, pale yellow autumn tints are exquisite. Conifers never look better than when planted in clumps, fringing a broad walk or drive, or grouped towards the margin of the lawn. Those who care to plant isolated specimens will find the Conifers unsurpassed for this purpose.

Of uncommon Conifers to be recommended are Cephalotaxus Fortunei, with broad, dark green, much divided foliage, and Cunninghamia sinensis, with green, flatly disposed leaves. The Japanese Umbrella Pine (Sciadopitys verticillata), of stiff growth, is distinctive and handsome.



ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE OF ALL CONIFERS—A CHARMING GREY-LEAVED CYPRESS (CUPRESSUS PISIFERA SQUARROSA).



A MAGNIFICENT PLANT OF CHINESE WISTARIA IN A GARDEN IN HAMPSHIRE.

# Flowering Trees and Shrubs

It is pleasant to see that flowering shrubs are at last gaining the popularity they deserve. Still, there are many most beautiful sorts not commonly grown. One of the finest of all is Pyrus Malus floribunda, or, to give it an English name, a variety of Apple, that in May is smothered in pink and white blossom. The Peach, in its several sorts, is an exquisite flowering tree; a group of the variety atro sanguinea, with deep rose-coloured bloom, is perhaps the most distinct of all. This shade of colour is found in no other flower, either of tree, shrub, or hardy plant, in bloom at the same time. and even from a distance the glow of its blossoms attracts attention. The Snowy Mespilus (Amelanchier canadensis) is a cloud of white flowers early in June, and deserves to be widely planted.

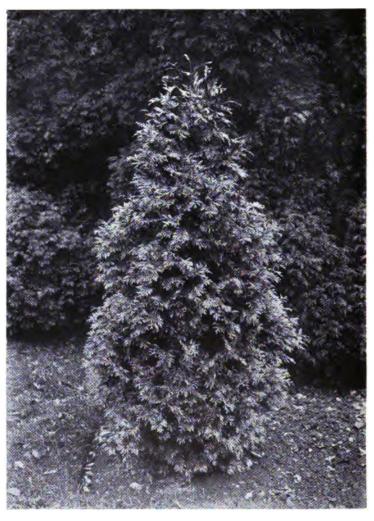
The Magnolias, or Star-flowers, comprise several noble plants. The most generally useful is Magnolia stellata; this forms a small bush, and in March is a mass of white star-like flowers. The Yulan (Magnolia conspicua), with large white blooms, and soulangeana (large flowers, dull crimson outside, pure white within), are the best of the tree Magnolias. Grandiflora, with splendid glossy green leaves, is a notable plant, and if put out against a warm south wall will reward the planter with some of its wonderful creamy white, cup-shaped blooms in August—blooms that are bowls of fragrance. Of

(Daphne mezereum), whose stiff, erect stems are clustered about with fragrant, rose-coloured flowers in March, but other Daphnes are not commonly grown. The most charming of these is the evergreen Garland Flower (Daphne cneorum) that gives its fragrant rose-coloured flowers in early summer. It thrives well on a rough sunny bank, or is suitable for the rock garden. The Spurge Laurel (Daphne Laureola) is a valuable evergreen for planting beneath forest trees: it is said to be immune from attacks by rabbits. The Deutzias are invaluable flowering shrubs; few surpass them for profusion of blossom. One of the finest of all is crenata flore pleno; in July its shoots are wreathed with small flowers like miniature double Daisies. The commonest of the Deutzias is gracilis, which gives white bloom in spring. Some charming new sorts have lately been raised. Among them may be mentioned hybrida Lemoinei, free flowering, white; gracilis venusta, with large white blooms, and Vilmoriniae, a new plant from China with large panicles of white blossom.

The Bush Honeysuckles (Diervilla) are delightful shrubs, the best of all being Eva Rathké with crimson flowers. But there are many sorts. Abel Carrière, rose; Mont Blanc, a handsome white; and Fleur de Mai, rosy purple, are good varieties. Escallonia is a charming shrub, yet not at all commonly grown: unfortunately it is not hardy. The two most generally satisfactory are macrantha, deep red, and



THE LIME TREE IS WELL SUITED TO PLANTING AS A HEDGE. SEVERE CUTTING DOES NOT HARM IT, AS MAY BE SEEN FROM THIS ILLUSTRATION, WHILE THE FOLIAGE IS OF PLEASANT LIGHT GREEN COLOURING.



A DELIGHTFUL CONIFER WITH GREEN AND WHITE LEAVES (CUPRESSUS LAWSONIANA ALBO SPICA).

philippiana, white; they have handsome evergreen leafage. The Mock Orange (Philadelphus) is one of the most accommodating of shrubs, and is most easily grown. A well-formed bush is a glorious sight in July when the long growths are wreathed in white blossom. They do best in a slightly shaded spot. Lemoinei, white; coronarius, white; Gordoni, white; and Lemoinei Mont Blanc, white, are a few of the finest of quite a number of sorts now to be obtained. The Spiraeas comprise some charming shrubs, shrubs that for grace of blossom are scarcely excelled. Lindleyana, ariaefolia and Aitchisoni make large bushes, some 5 feet high, and bear long, handsome sprays of white blossom. Thunbergi, with elegant foliage and smothered in small white flowers in May; confusa, very free, white: Van Houttei, white: Bumalda, pink, are other handsome sorts of shorter stature.

It would take much space even to enumerate the best of hardy flowering shrubs, and I must rest content with a brief survey of a few others. The New Zealand Daisy Bush (Olearia Haasti) is evergreen, and is covered with large white, Daisy-like flowers in August. Olearia stellulata, that blooms in early summer, is not so hardy, and except in extreme south and south-west counties does best on a warm wall. Hardy Fuchsias are invaluable plants for late summer flowering; macrostemma, Riccartoni and gracilis are among the best. The Golden Bell (Forsythia suspensa), that blooms in March and April; the

Orange Ball Tree (Buddleia globosa), with yellow rounded flowers in July; Buddleia veitchiana, purple flowers in August; Ceanothus of sorts, chiefly valuable as wall shrubs, and mentioned elsewhere; the Flowering Currants, among which aureum, with yellow flowers in summer, is uncommon; the Japanese Wistaria (multijuga and its white variety), with very long flower bunches: the double-flowered Raspberry (Rubus fruticosus fl. pl.), with handsome rose-coloured blooms, and that exquisite Tamarisk, Pallasii rosea, with graceful shoots and elegant rose-pink flower sprays-all are beautiful and invaluable flowering shrubs. The Thorns and Rocksprays (Cotoneaster) have a double value: in spring for their flowers, and in autumn for their fruits. Among the Thorns, coccinea, white-flowered with brilliant red fruits: Carrièri, white flowers and red fruits: and Crus galli, the Cockspur Thorn, white flowers and red fruits, are the most handsome. Among the Rocksprays a delightful shrub is horizontalis, which is suitable for planting on a rough bank, or among tree stumps, or for putting out against a wall. It berries freely. The best of the taller-growing Cotoneasters is Simoni, which grows well and bears a good crop of handsome coral red-berries.

# On Pruning Shrubs

Many people never think of pruning shrubs; others look upon it as an intricate subject, and for that reason let well alone. Yet, like all garden work,

when a real attempt is made to come to an understanding, pruning shrubs presents few difficulties. The simplest way is to divide shrubs into three classes: those that need (1) an annual thinning; (2) an occasional thinning, and (3) hard pruning in the form of cutting back and thinning out each year. One has also to consider when the work is best carried out. The chief thing to ascertain is whether the flowers are produced by the current year's growth—i.e. the green shoots—e.g. Spiraea japonica, or by the shoots made during previous years, e.g. Forsythia suspensa. It is obviously foolish to prune the latter until after the blooms are over: it is apparent also that in the case of the Spiraea, pruning is best completed before the shrub starts into growth, so as to force it to produce fine shoots that will blossom freely. It is quite a common occurrence for shrubs that bloom on the previous summer's growth to be pruned in winter, to "make them look tidy"; the consequence is that the shoots that would have blossomed the next year are cut back, say, to half their length; thus half the crop of flowers is sacrificed.

The practice of thinning is not well understood. It aims at cutting out weak, badly placed shoots and those old ones that are evidently worn out. It is not sufficient to cut back these shoots; they must be cut out right from the base. The cultivator should endeavour to encourage the growth of strong shoots from the base of the shrub and to have

them thinly disposed, so that they may mature and blossom well. When Lilacs do not bloom well have the weak branches thinned out in winter; when in spring the young shoots are about 6 inches long the weakest of these ought also to be removed.

Shrubs that flower on the current season's growth.—These need to be cut back in winter, the shoots being then thinned out also: Buddleia variabilis; Ceanothus azureus and the autumn-flowering varieties; Clematis Jackmani and varieties, Clematis lanuginosa and varieties; Cytisus nigricans; Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora; Hypericum androsaemum and Hypericum elatum, in dealing with the other sorts of Hypericum it is necessary only to remove the old flower heads; Hypericum calycinum may be cut down every third year; Jasminum nudiflorum (Winter Jasmine) as soon as the flowers are over; Passiflora Constance Elliot; Rubus (the late-flowering sorts, except Rubus deliciosus, which needs practically no pruning); Spanish Broom (Spartium junceum), the young shoots being cut back to within two or three buds of the old wood: Spiraeas.

Shrubs that are cut back when the blooms are over.—Japanese Quince (Cydonia japonica); Cytisus, all except nigricans, though they must not be cut back to the old wood; the Heaths (Erica), the flower heads are cut off when faded; Golden Bellflower (Forsythia); Winter Jasmine; Jew's

Mallow (Kerria); Mock Orange (Philadelphus Lemoinei); Rubus, the early-flowering sorts, such as spectabilis and nutkanus; Lilacs that do not bloom freely; and Wistaria.

Shrubs that need thinning out after flowering.—
Spring-flowering Spiraeas, with an occasional cutting back; Snowy Mespilus (Amelanchier); red and white Thorns (Crataegus); Deutzias; Bush Honeysuckles (Diervilla), every two or three years; Honeysuckle, all the bush sorts; Mock Orange (Philadelphus), all the large-growing kinds; flowering Plums (Prunus) and Pears (Pyrus); flowering Currants (Ribes); species or wild types of Roses (Rosa); Guelder Rose or Viburnum, every two or three years. Familiar shrubs other than those mentioned do not need pruning, except when getting out of bounds or unshapely.

Evergreens ought to be pruned in spring, just before they commence to grow; or, in the case of Rhododendrons, as soon as the flowers have fallen. In pruning evergreens the owner must exercise judgment; pruning is needed only, as a rule, when the plants are outgrowing their allotted space.

## CHAPTER XV

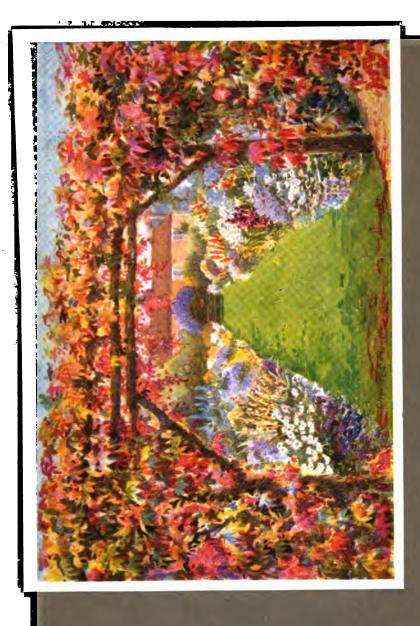
#### THE FLOWER BORDER

A formal arrangement of free-growing flowers is an anomaly: an anomaly in the garden is self-condemned.

THE mixed border, or the border of hardy flowers, is now firmly established as a feature of all English gardens large enough to include it, and usually it is a very beautiful feature. Sometimes, however, through careless or ill-considered planting, it defeats its own ends; it is intended to present in free masses the best of border flowers that are hardy in this country. Examples are often seen in which the same kind of plant is dotted over the face of the border at regular intervals; borders in which an attempt at colour schemes is made are also often planted in too formal a fashion—one might almost pass a rule down the dividing line between the masses of colour; the anomaly is presented of a formal arrangement of free-growing flowers, and an anomaly in the garden is self-condemned.

There are two chief ways of planting the mixed border: with regard to the colour of the flowers, so as to arrange them in harmonious progression, or in planting with due regard to good effect, but without grouping together flowers of one colour. A BORDER OF AUTUMN FLOWERS SEEN THROUGH AN ARCHWAY COVERED WITH VIRGINIAN CREEPER.

A BURDER OF AUTUMN FLOWERS SEEN THROUGH AN ARCHWAY COVERED WITH VIRGINIAN CREEPER.





When planted with care and knowledge, each group of colour merging naturally into another, the progressive colour scheme in the flower border has a fascination all-compelling; yet the eye is apt to tire of what is so palpably an artificial disposition, and it turns with relief to the border planted in less formal fashion.

The best plan to pursue when arranging colour schemes with flowers is to commence at each end with the soft tones and work gradually through stronger colours until the centre is reached; there the strongest and richest colours are grouped, and the eye revels in a burst of brilliant blossom. One might commence at one end with white and pale flowers, working through lavender to rose, through rose and crimson to mauve, and on to purple, while at the other end the progression would be through pale yellow to pale blue, from pale blue to deeper blue, then to rich yellow, and finally to orange, orange and purple forming the centre. A fairly regular outline is necessary to preserve the colour scheme, but this is relieved if the groups of colour are allowed to merge into each other naturally, one running alongside here, retreating or coming forward there. Any tendency to form blocks of colour of regular shape must be avoided, and the way to counteract this tendency is to arrange the plants in irregular groups.

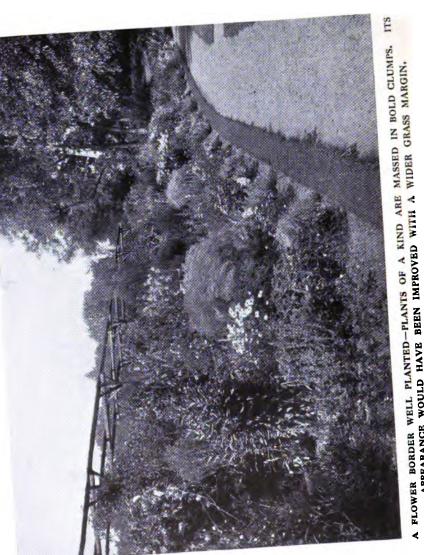
In the mixed border where no such colour scheme is aimed at, the chief faults are a uniform

surface and indiscriminate repetition of the same kind of plant. The former may be avoided by occasionally bringing towards the front some plant of tall growth and by allowing plants of dwarf habit to encroach here and there on the taller ones. The second fault alluded to is even worse than the first. It is easily corrected by massing the plants, planting them in groups, and taking care to repeat them seldom or not at all. A clump of Red Hot Poker (Tritoma), for instance, is an exquisite garden ornament, and contents the eye, but if repeated at intervals in the same border it has a disquieting effect; while not enhancing its own value, it detracts from that of other plants.

A border of hardy flowers scarcely ever looks better than when flanking a grass path; the only drawback is that the edge needs to be kept trim and straight; one cannot allow the plants to encroach on the grass, or the latter is spoilt. paved or flagged path made with either flat stones or bricks has much to recommend it: when toned with age it is pleasant to look upon and does not clash with the flowers, which, when new, it is liable to do. The stone or brick path has an advantage over that of grass in that one can use it with comfort even in wet weather; but I think the chief charm of a paved path lies in the fact that one can allow clumps of tufted creeping plants to encroach upon it, and so break the straight edge in a perfectly delightful way, to the advantage both of



A BORDER FULL OF BLOSSOM. EVERLASTING PEAS, PILLAR ROSES, GYPSOPHILA OR CHALK PLANT, AND INULA MAY BE DISTINGUISHED.



APPEARANCE WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPROVED WITH A WIDER GRASS MARGIN.

the border and of the path. A gravel path between the flower borders is, considered from the aesthetic point of view, least satisfactory of all, although, with broad grass margins, its appearance is much improved.

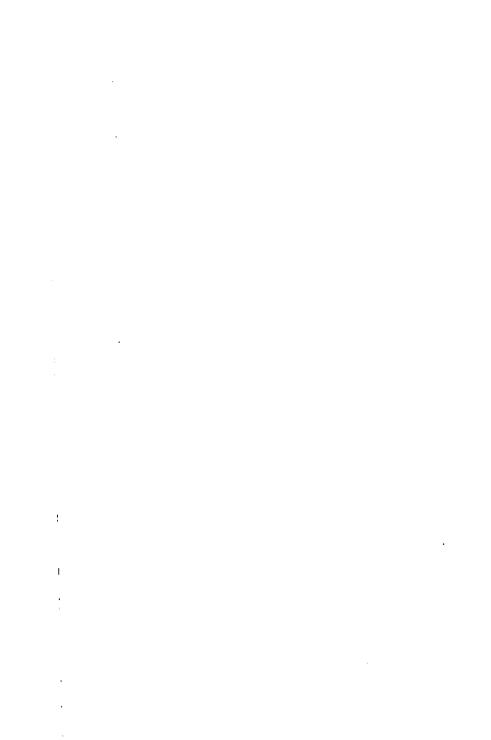
### CHAPTER XVI

### GLOAMING IN THE GARDEN

If he leave at twilight, though he labour from dawn to dusk, the gardener never comes close to the soul of the flowers.

The daylight fades: flushed rose and red and gold by the borrowed radiance of the sun-stained clouds, the garden glows with a strange and mystic light. In those unforgettable moments when leaves and flowers are tinged with the light of dying day, the garden seems to its lovers an earthly paradise. The sunlight fades, and with its fading pass the details that made of a fairyland a garden—the prosaic foundation of a matchless superstructure. As the frame recedes and finally disappears in the gathering dusk, twilight falls; unseen and almost imperceptible, soundless and full of mystery, like some magic veil thrown from the lap of the gods, it shrouds the builder's details, while bringing to fresh life the beauty of his work.

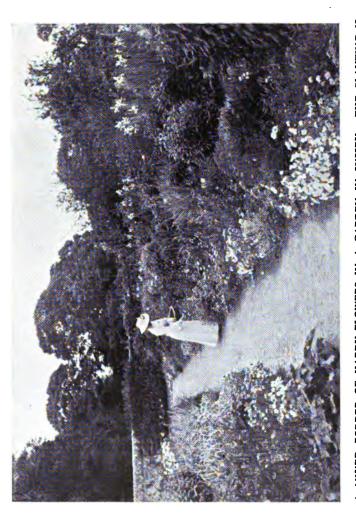
If he leave at twilight, though he labour from dawn to dusk, the gardener never comes close to the soul of the flowers, never knows those moments in the world of leaf and blossom when the garden is no longer a garden, but a paradise on earth. As daylight fades to evening, evening falls to dusk, and



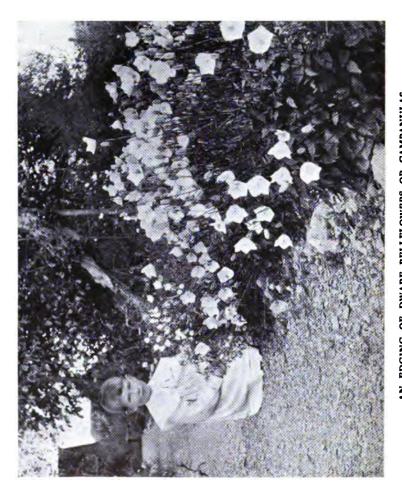
• . • twilight casts a shadow over all, the goddess of the flowers comes to her own again. To miss the moment of her coming is to miss the most precious that a garden has to give. For there and then the spirit of peace finds rest. And in her train come happy memories; swift on the wings of thought they throng, chasing away the trials, crowding out the troubles that beset the daylight hours. Shadows have grown and gone—passed to nothingness; twilight is lost in night. The day is buried in a shroud of grey; a gloom, intense in mystery, inspiring in solemnity, is all-pervading. And then Heaven's lamps are lit.

The clear pale moon sheds silvered beams on the garden's grass-grown ways, dewdrops sparkle on a million blades of grass, and behold! a richly bejewelled carpet lies at your feet. Leaves that were sombre green take on a lustrous sheen, softly the night wind rustles through plants and flowers, turning leaf and petal, petal and leaf, until they shimmer like wave-crests on a moonlit sea. The world is hushed, and only the breeze in the trees above chants a lullaby to the dreaming flowers, while from the dew-spangled branch a teardrop falls for blossoms that will fail to greet the sunlit dawn of another summer day. Then strange sight, awake in a garden asleep, open among flowers fast closed, sentinel o'er the sleeping, blooms Oenothera, Evening's Primrose; its fragile petals, roused by some magic touch, awake refreshed from their daylight dreams and glow beneath the moon's soft light. As brighter shines the sun, the more soundly do they sleep; yet as evening's dusk and night's dark gloom approach, slowly the petals wake and presently unfold in all their fair frail beauty.

And, too, what is this, a strange fragrance on the breath of the night. How it steals o'er the still air, full and fresh and sweet, wafted from the wedding bouquet of night and twilight! A posy of precious odours—of night-scented Stock, of white Tobacco, of Oenothera, of Cabbage and China Roses, mingled with the scent of Sweet Briar sprays. Surely this is the garden's supreme hour, hallowed above all others, when a few old-world blossoms pay tribute to the glamour of the gloaming.



A MIXED BORDER OF HARDY FLOWERS IN A GARDEN IN SUSSEX. THE PLANTING IS INFORMAL AND IN GROUPS.



AN EDGING OF DWARF BELLFLOWERS OR CAMPANULAS.

# CHAPTER XVII

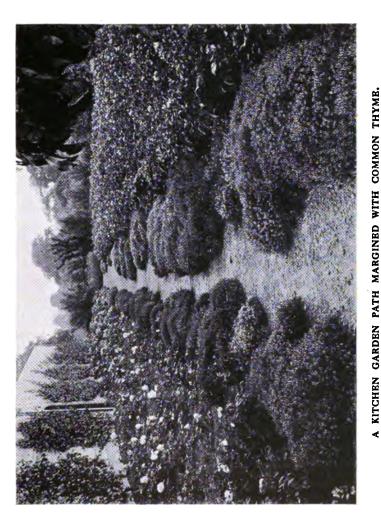
### PATHS AND THEIR MARGINS

Some of the commonest plants provide the most delightful edgings.

THE most charming path I ever saw is that shown in the accompanying illustration, and, as may be guessed, its beauty is due solely to the margin. It consists of the most prosaic material, the Wild Thyme—a common herb—bordering a path in a kitchen garden. Surely a kitchen-garden path is the very last place to which one would turn for an example of garden beauty, yet I think the charm of this can scarcely be denied. It is so delightfully informal and perfectly natural. The illustration shows the Thyme as it was 4 or 5 years after planting. Although it is more beautiful now than ever it has been, it has always possessed a charm; while increasing in beauty each year, it has never been without interest since planted. I can never understand why some at least of the kitchen-garden paths should not be allowed to grow into beauty, as they soon will do if given the chance. Some of them, of course, must be kept wide and clear for the passage of carts and wheelbarrows, but here and there one might allow certain good edging plants to

and May; the Rock Cresses (Aubrietia) with greyish leaves and flowers in shades of purple and rose in early summer; Snow-in-Summer (Cerastium tomentosum) with grey leaves and exquisite white flowers; some of the dwarf Bellflowers, such as carpatica and its white variety, and portenschlagiana: all these are perennial edging plants that have pleasant and persisting leaves and beautiful flowers. They are seen at their best when growing among large stones. The value of Heather is commented upon in the chapter "A Garden of Heather."

Other perennials are valuable in a lesser degree; they can scarcely be planted so freely as those already mentioned, but a group here and there on the flower border margin is most welcome. Most exquisite of all is the Gentianella (Gentiana acaulis), with large, tube-shaped blooms of intense blue, that arise from a carpet of dwarf leafage. It is not really difficult to grow, but thrives in some gardens much better than in others. It needs a moist and fairly rich soil. The Gromwell (Lithospermum prostratum) is another very beautiful blue-flowered plant that in some places grows well enough, and in others is what the gardener expressively, though not very elegantly, calls "a miffy doer." It prefers a light soil, one that does not get sodden in winter. There is a quite new and much improved variety called Heavenly Blue, which has large flowers of a brighter blue; it is vigorous and there should be little difficulty in growing it. Then, for the shady border,





THE FINEST OF ALL CALCEOLARIAS — AMPLEXICAULIS, WITH LIGHT CLEAR YELLOW FLOWERS—BORDERING A WINDING PATH.

there is the common Musk, which is hardy enough. Last of all I have to mention the Rock Rose (Helianthemum) that makes an admirable edging plant and has blooms of various colours, and the Tufted Pansies or Violas whose usefulness is well known.

Among edging plants of annual duration only, the dwarf white Alyssum is, I think, not surpassed, From seed sown in March little tufts are soon formed. In two months or so they are in full bloom and continue to flower until spoilt by the frost. Those who care for a blue and edging should plant Lobelia and the common white Alyssum, not the dwarf variety, which would be smothered. In this case the Alyssum must not be sown until April. There is something to be said even for an edging of Tom Thumb Nasturtiums, especially where the soil is poor. In good soil they are inclined to produce leaves at the expense of blossom. King of Tom Thumbs is a fine variety that bears its bright red blooms so freely as almost to hide the foliage; it remains compact and forms an ideal edging plant. The Sweet Woodruff (Asperula odorata) and the blue Woodruff (azurea setosa), planted together, make a pretty edging, and they thrive well in the shade. The Calandrinia, a charming little annual that may be had in various colours, is not to be overlooked: the crimson sort (umbellata) is particularly good.

For brilliant colour on a sun-baked spot there

# ANN HATHAWAY'S COTTAGE AND GARDEN. (From the painting by A. C. Wyart.)





straight walk may be, it is pleasant sometimes to have a winding one. Bricks so placed that their ends form a bold, saw-like edge have scarcely an attractive appearance, although when covered with tufts of creeping plants they are much improved. One of the quaintest of all edgings, but one that has little to recommend it, is that of sunk bottles. Ordinary whiskey bottles are used, the neck and two-thirds of the bottle being buried. If this edging relied for its interest on the bottles alone, it would of course be maniacal to use them, but the very curious fact is that if the bottles are plunged in the soil in this way the chances are that ferns will grow in them. This is very remarkable, and I am not able to say what are the probabilities of ferns making their appearance. I have received letters, and bottles containing the ferns, from widely separated parts of the country where the practice has met with success. But the best one can say of it is that it is of interest by some out-of-the-way path in the kitchen garden. Very attractive edgings can be made with rough stones, but they, like the bricks, are attractive only when covered with Rock Cress and Candytuft, and other creeping plants.

## **CHAPTER XVIII**

#### ALL ABOUT THE CLEMATIS

The pruning of Clematis proves a pons asinorum that many never cross.

WE talk about the Clematis as glibly as of the Rose, yet how little do we mean. We have in our mind's eye the favourite purple Clematis Jackmani, that climbs the porch of every other wayside cottage; perhaps we have recollections of the exquisite white trails of the mountain Clematis, or hazy memories of large rich-blossomed kinds that we have seen in gardens. But we know very little of the wealth of beautiful flowers that the Clematis family contains, or else we should surely make better use of them. We may have one or another, and at certain times many, of the Clematis in bloom from May until the frosts come, and all are beautiful. Some yield a profusion of small blossoms, others give less freely of large handsome flowers. Many amateurs fail to grow the Clematis well because they have not grasped the essentials of its cultivation, which, however, are simple enough. The pruning proves a pons asinorum that many never cross, because they do not realise that there are several chief groups of Clematis, each represented by many



THE MOUNTAIN CLEMATIS (MONTANA), FIVE YEARS AFTER BEING PLANTED, COVERING A HOUSE FRONT IN A LONDON SUBURB.



CLEMATIS MME. VAN HOUTTE TRAINED AS A WALL CLIMBER.

beautiful garden varieties, and that each variety requires pruning according to the group to which it belongs.

The Jackmani group is the most popular, and its varieties are those most generally grown; they bloom during late summer and early autumn. The common purple Jackmani is the most useful. the hardiest and the most free flowering of the lot. There are other good varieties, however. Two especially attractive are rubra and Madame Edouard André, both of reddish maroon colour. Jackmani alba, white, and Gipsy Queen, purple, are also to be recommended. The Jackmani varieties bloom on the current season's shoots; in other words, they have to make growth before they bloom. Thus the pruning is directed towards encouraging strong annual shoots, and takes place before fresh growth begins. Some prune in autumn, and others in spring. I prefer the latter season, and prune my Clematis Jackmani in March. The work is perfectly simple. All one has to do is to cut down the plant to within about a foot of the base. Very soon young growths push out from the old stems, and it is these young shoots that, in late summer, produce flowers.

The varieties belonging to the lanuginosa group come next in popularity and general usefulness. Their blooms are larger and more handsome than those of the Jackmani group, but they do not bloom quite so freely. The flowers are also borne on the

new growths, and the pruning is somewhat the same as for the Jackmani Clematis; the only difference is that they must not be pruned so severely; the shoots need not be cut back more than half way. Beauty of Worcester, violet blue, is one of the very finest varieties. Lady Caroline Neville, plum colour; Mrs. George Jackman, white, with cream-coloured bands; Mme. Van Houtte, white; Sensation, mauve; and Marcel Moser, reddish mauve with deeper bands, are varieties of proved merit. Two other groups may be associated with the lanuginosa Clematis, viz. viticella and coccinea. Varieties of viticella are pruned like those of Jackmani, while the coccinea group often prune themselves, dying down in the winter. Although the flowers of the viticella group are rather small, they are freely produced in late summer and autumn. Venosa, white and purple; Ville de Lyon, reddish carmine: Thomas Moore, violet; and Alba, white, are good sorts. One of the finest of the coccinea group is Countess of Onslow, violet purple. All the above bear their flowers on the young shoots or the current season's growth.

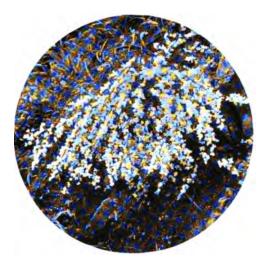
The other two chief groups to mention are the florida and patens. Varieties of these blossom on the old wood, and therefore require totally different pruning. The flowers are produced in May and June and the pruning is carried out as soon as the flowers are over. It consists in removing some of the older growths so that young shoots may have a

better chance of reaching perfect development and maturity. There are some particularly handsome sorts in both groups. The flowers are large and showy. The florida varieties include the exquisite Belle of Woking, double, silvery grey; Duchess of Edinburgh, double, white; and John Gould Veitch, double, blue. Good varieties belonging to the patens group are, Miss Bateman, white; Nellie Moser, pale rose with reddish bands; and Lady Londesborough, silvery grey. The varieties of the florida and patens type are usually grown against walls, and are well adapted for this method of cultivation.

Among the species or wild types of Clematis are several invaluable plants, the most beautiful of all being the Mountain Clematis (montana), that flowers in May; its slender shoots are smothered in pure white bloom. There is now a handsome reddish variety called montana rubens; the blooms are smaller than those of the type, but they are very freely produced. Virgin's Bower (C. flammula) blooms in August, producing a cloud of small, creamy white, fragrant flowers. The Traveller's Ioy (C. Vitalba) blooms also in August; the silky, fluffy appendages that succeed the small white flowers are very picturesque, and the plant is as ornamental when in fruit as when in flower. Traveller's Joy or Old Man's Beard is a fairly common wayside climber in England, and sometimes reaches to a great height, as, for instance, in

the Surrey lanes. These wild types need little or no pruning; whatever is necessary should take the form of thinning out, in the case of montana, as soon as the flowers are over, and with the other two, in March. In each case some of the older shoots are cut away.

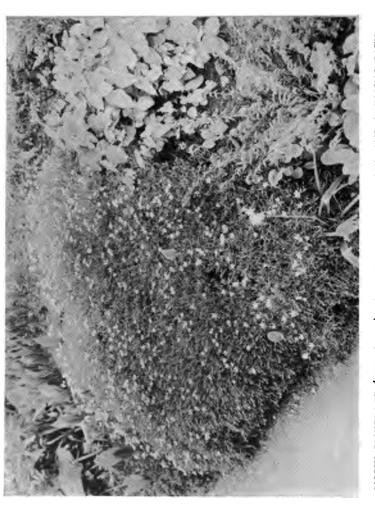
The Bush Clematises suffer even greater neglect than those just alluded to. One of the prettiest is recta, that produces its pretty white flowers freely in July. C. davidiana gives blue flowers in August, while integrifolia, which is also blue, blossoms in June. The growths of the two latter are strong enough to support themselves, but the former needs to be trained over a few short poles.



A CHARMING LITTLE BROOM (CYTISUS KEWENSIS).



THE KING OF ROCKFOILS (SAXIFRAGA PYRAMIDALIS).



MOSSY SAXIFRAGE (HYPNOIDES) CARPETING A ROUGH BANK AND FRINGING PATH.

## CHAPTER XIX

#### FLOWER BEDS ON LAWNS

No good lawn is made a better lawn by being planted either with trees or flowering plants.

In the chapter on garden planning I drew attention to the way in which many lawns are disfigured by being dotted with ornamental as distinct from forest trees, and by the presence of flower beds of geometrical design planted with low plants that give flat masses of colour. No good lawn is made a better lawn by being planted either with trees or flowering plants; to attempt to improve it is beside the question. Variety is necessary to preserve the interest of a garden; but it is of importance to arrange the various features so that they do not While single trees arranged indiscriminately on its surface quite spoil the lawn, and formal flower beds, conspicuously placed towards the centre, disfigure it, I am not prepared to deny that beds of simple design have much charm if carefully placed on the lawn margin and filled with suitable plants. When a garden is small and the lawn is necessarily restricted, then there is nothing to be said against the grouping of trees and flowers near the edge, providing care is taken in the selection of the plants used.

graceful, drooping, rounded bush, and in autumn is smothered with its vermilion berries—a perfectly glorious sight. The Forsythia, or Golden Bell flower, that blooms in March, is admirable for this purpose; but it needs a carpeting plant, and there is nothing so well suited as the Siberian Squill (Scilla sibirica), or Glory of the Snow (Chionodoxa Luciliæ). This flower association is exquisite. Then the Star Magnolia (Magnolia stellata), a deciduous (leaf-losing) shrub that bears a profusion of white flowers in March, is worth planting in a bed, especially if the latter has a ground covering of Grape Hyacinth Heavenly Blue (Muscari).

For a single specimen tree to plant in some corner of the lawn, or wherever it seems best suited, there is, I think, scarcely anything to surpass the Yulan (Magnolia conspicua), a tree of perfect beauty-in spring, when its stems show dark against the large, pure white cup-shaped flowers; in summer, clothed in its leafy coat of burnished green; and when the flowers of the Yulan fade, they are almost as exquisite as when they open. I never saw petals cover the ground so gracefully, or form so fair a shroud for their own burial. Among the Roses there are many well suited to the purpose in view. The Japanese Briar, with its large single blooms of rose or white in June, and its prominent orange red fruits in October, is indispensable; it grows 4 or 5 feet high. There is the Sweet Briar, fragrant in leaf and picturesque in fruit. The Penzance Briars,



YUCCA GLORIOSA IN FLOWER.



GIANT TOBACCO PLANTS (NICOTIANA SYLVESTRIS) FROM SELF-SOWN SEEDS.

the wichuraiana or Creeping Roses, and any of the Rambling Roses, if allowed to form free bushes, make admirable lawn beds. The most graceful of all the Tamarisks, Pallasii rosea, or aestivalis, bearing slender, plume-like bunches of pink blossom, is one that should be mentioned. And with such a wide field from which to choose for beautifying the lawn margin, still leaving the lawn as a lawn, we must needs cut up the greensward into beds of unmeaning design, and fill them with Geraniums!

### CHAPTER XX

#### WILD FLOWERS WORTH GROWING

There is little doubt that if some of our fairest wild flowers only grew in Patagonia or Thibet, they would be searched out at great cost, at the expense of life and limb, and shipped home.

THE spirit of wander is, I think, inherent in a gardener: his surroundings are such as to encourage He feels the call of the Wild; her finger beckons to him as possibly to no other, partly perhaps because his perceptions are nicely attuned —he finds an interest where others would find monotony-partly also because he is glad to escape for a time from the artificiality that dogs the cultivator's art. Yet even the wandering gardener now misses far more than he sees, for, instead of tramping from one garden to another as those of a generation or two ago were wont to do, he mounts his cycle. A country tramp has always had a fascination for me. I have been led into many and varied places, and always have I found real enjoyment and something of fresh interest. My wanderings have been limited as wanderings go nowadays, yet I can commend the virtues of a day's tramp to fellow gardeners.

JAPANESE IRISES AND OTHER FREE-GROWING FLOWERS IN THE WILD GARDEN AT WISLEY, SURREY.

JAPANESE IRISES AND OTHER FREE-GROWING FLOWERS IN THE WILD GARDEN AT WISLEY SURREY.





Occasionally we are seized with a spirit of unrest as inexplicable and incomprehensible as its origin is obscure. Books cloy; human companionship for the moment irritates rather than soothes; even one's garden is disappointing and has lost its power to please. Then is the time to wander across the wide fields of waving corn or flowering grasses, by luxuriant hedgerows and lush stream sides—with only the blue canopy of heaven above, the free wild earth beneath and all around. alone, and soon you will be at one with your surroundings and, being a gardener, will get close to the heart of things more readily than another. Although at the time you may not realise it—in fact, may never realise it—lessons taught by inspirations drawn from the very lap of Nature will be learnt, lessons that even unconsciously exercised will direct and control your work and guide the garden to its destiny. Such at least has been my experience.

I have wandered along the wooded slopes of the Esterel mountains, where scarlet windflowers, one of the glories of Riviera gardens, peep out and smile at you when the sunshine filters through the treetops; through the wild, lone valley of Teesdale, where the Spring Gentian hides its lovely head in the moist and mossy banks of the mountain stream; by the roadside in Bucks, where the Water Anemone sheets the stray pond with a mass of white and gold or the wild Orchis paints the meadow with purple flowers; across the bleak hills of Derbyshire in search

of some rare Thistle; through woodland depths to find the broad-leaved Bellflower, and across the wide acres of Yorkshire in search of Musk Mallow and uncommon Orchis. Although the details of my wanderings are now lost in the mists of things half forgotten, impressions remain, impressions that often loom strong and fresh on the screen of memory. The incomparable blue Chicory by the wayside; the purplish spires of Loosestrife, Silver Weed and Giant Reed by "Thames silvery stream"; the Drosera and Bog Bean on marshes and moist commons; the wild Orchises on Beachy Head and the limestone hills of Surrey—all have tempted me to wander and brought peace to the spirit of unrest.

And the practical aspect of this wandering is that it brings to the gardener's notice many beautiful wild flowers that are well worth cultivating. Some, in fact, are already garden favourites. The purple Loosestrife and its white variety; the Marsh Marigold; Campanula rapunculoides and C. latifolia, both useful Bellflowers for the flower border; the Maiden Pink (Dianthus deltoides) and Cheddar Pink (Dianthus caesius), and many ferns, are already grown. Yet many more are worth garden ground. The Willow Herb (Epilobium angustifolium) is a delightful June flower; the loose and graceful masses of rose-coloured bloom are valuable in any border. Then the yellow Lysimachia, that clothes many a river bank with its spires of rich bloom, is one that is rarely seen in gardens. The



SELF-SOWN FOXGLOVES GROWING AMONG PARONIES IN A SHRUBBERY BORDER.



A BORDER OF PLOWERS FROM SEED-STOCKS IN THE FOREGROUND.

Silver Weed (Potentilla argentea), with leafage that is surpassed by none in beauty, and with showy yellow flowers—why should it not be grown, if nowhere else then on some rough bank? and there are many in gardens where little else will thrive.

Happily we have become alive to the charm of the Foxglove, and now plant it freely; but what of the Viper's Bugloss, unrivalled in the intensity of its blue blossoms? Alas! we rarely see it. We grow the Primrose, then why not the Woodruff, an ideal plant to cover the ground in a shady spot? It is true that sometimes we find the yellow Flag in streamside gardens, but rarely the Giant Reed (Arundo Phragmites), one of the noblest of all British plants, and the Sweet Reed (Acorus Calamus). It is possible even to underrate the decorative value of the Giant Horsetails (Equisetum). The charming old-world Meadow Saxi frage (granulata) has found a permanent home in many a garden in the person of its double variety, which is an admirable flower for grouping in grass, and thrives under forest trees. Among the wild Orchids there are many exquisite flowers that might worthily find a place in the garden.

In fact, there is little doubt that if some of our fairest wild flowers only grew in Patagonia or Thibet, they would be searched out at great cost, at the expense of life and limb, and shipped home. Here they would be hailed with joy, and doubtless in course of time would receive a first-class

certificate from the Royal Horticultural Society. If flowers were judged by their beauty, there are many in the British flora that deserve this honour. There are weeds enough, goodness knows, among the exotic plants grown in English gardens, and here they do not even possess the quality of English weeds—that of being at home in their surroundings. We coddle them up on account of their rarity or their peculiarity, while, so far as garden beauty is concerned, we might fill our borders with fairer flowers from our own countryside. This is, I suppose, only another instance of the truth of the old adage about Familiarity and Contempt. It is also, I think, the result of the craze for collecting. Providing a plant comes from some inaccessible crag or some distant country, even though it has always to be coddled and treated as an invalid, we make much of it, not for its own beauty or real value in the garden, but owing to an extraneous interest that attaches to it.

Quite a number of British plants can be obtained from some nurseries; others must be gathered, not when they are in bloom, but in the autumn, when the growth is more or less at a standstill. It is, I think, a common belief that wild plants are not easy to grow in gardens: this is erroneous so far as most of them are concerned, provided they are transplanted at the proper time.

Among British wild flowers that are unworthily neglected as garden plants one may mention the Wood Anemone

## WILD FLOWERS WORTH GROWING 141

(nemorosa), Marsh Marigold (Caltha palustris), Night-flowering Silene (Silene noctiflora), White Lychnis (Lychnis vespertina), two flowers of the gloaming; Musk Mallow (Malva moschata), Yellow Balsam (Impatiens Noli-me-Tangere), Willow Herb (Epilobium angustifolium), Loosestrife (Lythrum Salicaria), Meadow Saxifrage (granulata), Cotton Thistle (Onopordium Acanthium), Round headed Rampion (Phyteuma orbiculare), Red Valerian (Centranthus ruber), Nettle-leaved Bellflower (Campanula Trachelium), Broad leaved Bellflower (Campanula latifolia), Viper's Bugloss (Echium vulgare), Bog Bean (Menyanthes trifoliata), Common Lysimachia (L. vulgaris), Tufted Lysimachia (L. thyrsiflora), Water Violet (Hottonia palustris), Marsh Gentian (G. Pneumonanthe), Great Mullein (Verbascum Thapsus), Toadflax (Linaria vulgaris), Arrowhead (Sagittaria sagittaefolia), Flowering Rush (Butomus umbellatus), Water Plantain (Alisma Plantago), Yellow Flag (Iris Pseudacorus), Bog Asphodel (Narthecium ossifragum), Canary Grass (Phalaris canariensis), Common Reed (Arundo Phragmites); and among the Orchids, Epipactis latifolia, White Helleborine (Cephalanthera pallens). Spotted Orchis (maculata), Bee Orchis (Ophrys apifera), Butterfly Orchis (Habenaria bifolia), and others.

## CHAPTER XXI

#### A GARDEN OF FLOWERS FROM SEED

Amateurs do not seem to realise that perennials are easily raised from seed, and so one of the most real of gardening pleasures is lost to them.

Plants that one has raised from seeds are always great favourites; a garden filled with home-grown flowers possesses a charm that endears it to the There is, I suppose, a spice of ego about a garden such as this; it is very delightful and gratifying to the sense of vanity innate in all of us, as we pilot friends and visitors round the garden, to be able to point to plants and flowers with pride, and to say of them that all were grown at home. The wonder is that amateurs do not raise more flowers in this way; it is at once the simplest and most satisfactory of all methods of plant-growing. Seedlings are usually more vigorous and longer lived than plants raised in other ways. There is this little difficulty, that seedlings do not always come true, or, in other words, their blooms may vary from those of their parents. Still, this gives even deeper fascination to plant-growing from seeds, for one never knows when something even better than the parent kind may turn up. Valuable flowers have been obtained



DAFFODILS IN THE WILD GARDEN.



in this way, and by amateurs. Seed saved from a species, i.e. the wild original type of plant, will breed true, provided its flowers have not been cross-fertilised, but seed saved from variations from that type—garden varieties—do not necessarily do so. Usually the latter gives a mixed progeny, yet many named varieties of flowers have been so carefully selected by florists and nurserymen throughout a long period that they come true from seed. Instances come at once to mind in Delphinium Belladonna (a lovely light blue Larkspur), Sweet William Pink Beauty, and in Sweet Peas. Indeed, numerous examples might be cited.

One may fill a garden with flowers from homesaved seed or from seed bought from the seedsman. It is best as a rule to rely upon the latter, for this reason. A garden cannot continue to supply both seeds and flowers: if seeds are allowed to form, then blossoms will not be produced, while, obviously, if as they fade the blooms are cut off to encourage the opening of others, there will be no seeds. It is unwise to attempt a compromise by cutting off the faded blooms during the height of summer, and allowing seeds to form late in the season only, for these do not ripen properly and are of doubtful value. A flower farm where plants are grown merely for the sake of their seeds is a blaze of brilliant bloom in early summer, but by the end of July most of the flowers have faded and seed pods are already abundant. While the amateur would be ill-advised to save all his own seeds, there is no good reason why he should not save a few, especially of any favourite sort; any plant is capable of maturing one or two seed pods without its blossoming being adversely affected.

The first hardy plants I raised from seed were perennial Lupines, and what a delight they were! I got infinitely more pleasure from those than from any Lupines I ever bought or had given to me. The seed was sown in May out of doors in ordinary border soil, and when the seedlings were an inch or two high, "large enough to handle," as the professional term has it, I put them at about a foot apart. And how they grew! Many of them were in bloom by August, and by autumn had made splendid plants for putting out in the flower borders. Most of them were planted in a shady border, one facing north that only got a little sunshine late in the afternoon in summer, and none in winter, and how they blossomed the following year! The flowers showed wonderful variety of colouring, from white through shades of blue to purple, and considerable variation in form.

Some of the plants were of straggling habit of growth and "flopped" about after the blooms were over, while one or two were of firm, stiff growth that kept erect throughout the season and generally behaved themselves as model plants. I saved seeds from these, and a certain proportion of the seedlings had again the same compact habit that

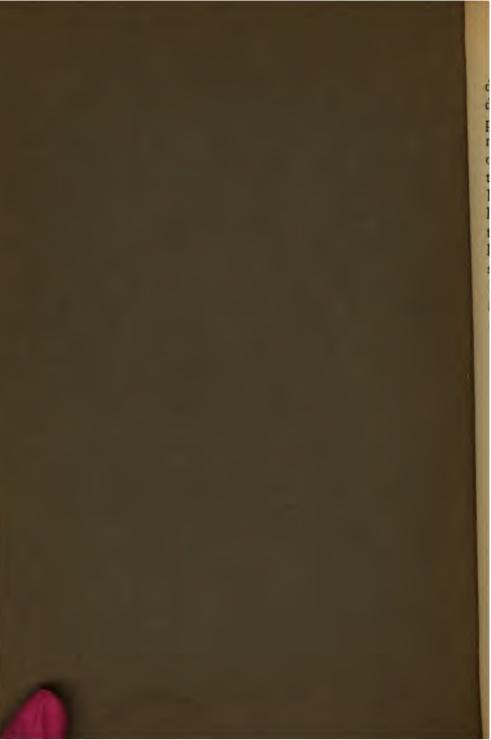
DAFFODILS IN THE GRASS.

(From the water colour drawing by Beatrice Parsons.)

DAFFOORLS IN THE GRASS

The state of Slour arising by Beiter a figure . .





distinguished the parents. I took care of them and discarded the others. Gradually the straggling plants were removed to make way for those of neater growth. I believe I sowed only one packet of seed, yet I had far more plants than I knew what to do with, and gave many away to friends. These Lupines were the beginning of quite an interesting little wild garden. Besides the Lupines it now contains Foxgloves, Hollyhocks, Forget-me-nots, Shirley Poppies, Snapdragons—just a few plants that seed themselves so freely as to become a nuisance. I left them alone and in a year or two had a charming bit of natural garden, the taller plants rising in stately fashion from a perfect carpet of Forget-menots. Poppies seemed to have rather the worst of matters in the border, so promptly took possession of the path, where subsequently they were joined by the Snapdragons and Forget-me-nots.

All I do to preserve some sort of order in this lovely little wilderness is to remove the older plants when their seeds have fallen and to take out a few of the too assertive seedlings. I cannot help thinking that every garden, even quite small ones, would be better for a wild patch such as this. There should be no difficulty about forming it, for everyone who has a garden has surely been troubled to know what to do with the numerous self-sown seedlings that come up every year. In my own garden searching for seedlings is quite one of the most interesting tasks in late summer and early

autumn, and never fails to reward me with some excellent material for planting out in beds and borders. I have always more than enough of such things as Evening Primroses, Poppies, Lupines, and others already mentioned, and take delight in giving them to friends and neighbours. The prodigality of some hardy plants is astounding.

If seeds of hardy perennials are sown in May, some of the plants will bloom the same year, and if sown later on in summer, nearly all will bloom the next. I refer to such as Delphiniums (Larkspur), Campanula in variety, Thrift (Armeria), herbaceous Lupines, tree Lupines, perennial Poppy, Michaelmas Daisies, Sunflower (Helianthus), Chrysanthemum maximum, Garden Chrysanthemum, Carnations, Evening Primroses, and many other common border plants. Seeds of most hardy border flowers germinate readily and freely, and if sown in spring and early summer make quite good plants by autumn, and are then put out when they are to bloom. And how much cheaper it is to buy the seeds than to purchase the plants; while even if it were dearer, the pleasure found in their cultivation would make more than ample compensation.

One particularly difficult plant to raise from seed is Giant Thrift. I have nothing but failure to record, and I am told that others experience a similar difficulty. I have recently sown four packets of seed, obtained from the best possible source, and I think I can congratulate myself on

the possession of a dozen plants. However, it is well to be philosophic in the face of disappointment, and I have no doubt I shall take far greater care of these than I should have done of three or four dozen. Neither have I been particularly successful in raising the common Thrift (Armeria vulgaris) from seed, although I am told by others that they have raised it readily enough. Why it should thus turn up its nose at my method of treatment I do My disappointment is the keener as I am very fond of Thrift; it makes an ideal edging, especially if backed by the favourite Mrs. Sinkins Pink. I remember a flower border in the Royal Gardens, Windsor, that was margined in this way, and my father, then head gardener to Queen Victoria, used never to tire of pointing it out to Her Majesty, and she never to tire of admiring it. In this chapter I have referred only to the question of raising perennials from seeds as an alternative—an alternative that is far cheaper and full of delight—to buying the plants. One is obliged to grow annuals and biennials from seed, for the simple reason that this is the only way to grow them; but it does not seem to be commonly known among amateurs that perennials are just as easily raised from seed, and so one of the most real of gardening pleasures is lost to them.

## CHAPTER XXII

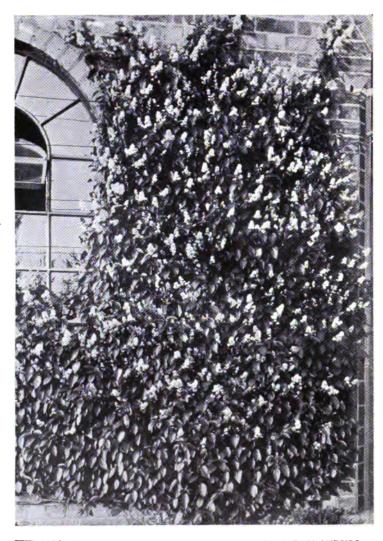
### THE BRICK WALL BEAUTIFUL

A brick wall, often unattractive in itself, offers a home for many good plants.

ONE of the most attractive flower displays I have ever seen on a wall was made by that lovely light blue flowered shrub. Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles. and I am able to give an illustration of it. planted against a fruit-room in a midland garden, and from its presence amid the prosaic surroundings of vegetable quarters gains perhaps an exaggerated But it made a glorious picture when I saw it in August, smothering the leaf-covered wall with elegant little bunches of small, close-clustering The plant shown in the illustration covers a wall quite 8 feet high, and reaches in a lateral direction for several yards; the aspect is south. The old double-flowered Jew's Mallow (Kerria japonica fl. pl.), with its round blossoms of bright yellow colour, is a delightful old-fashioned shrub for wall planting, and it blooms in May. The doubleflowered form lasts longer in flower than the single. My remarks now do not concern the "dry" wall, but have reference to an ordinary brick wall, which, although often unattractive in itself, offers a home



A ROSE-ENCLUSTERED ARCH—DOROTHY PERKINS ON A WALL FACING SOUTH-BAST.



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL OF ALL BLUE-FLOWERED HARDY SHRUBS— CEANOTHUS GLOIRE DE VERSAILLES. THIS BLOOMS IN AUGUST AND THRIVES IN THE OPEN GARDEN OR, BETTER STILL, ON A WALL.

for many good plants. The matter of selection is largely governed by that of aspect. I have seen the Jew's Mallow thriving on a wall facing north; that is equivalent to saying that it may be planted facing either east or west or south. Another good August-flowering shrub for a high wall is Buddleia variabilis and its varieties, veitchiana and magnifica; the grey green foliage is attractive, otherwise I would scarcely recommend them, for they have the misfortune to bear their purple flowers only towards the ends of the shoots. The varieties magnifica and veitchiana are far more handsome than the type.

Other leaf-losing shrubs that are valuable in this connection are Prunus triloba, one of the finest of the April-flowering Plums; the Winter Sweet (Chimonanthus fragrans), whose fragrant brownish blossoms come in the depth of winter; the Golden Bell (Forsythia suspensa and intermedia), that blooms in February; the Winter Jasmine (Jasminum nudicaule), whose slender stems are often wreathed in gold in the last days of the old year. The Winter Sweet is best on a warm south wall: the others are quite indifferent to aspect. Then for a south wall the Pearl Bush (Exochorda grandiflora) is invaluable; this bears large pure-white blossoms that are in full beauty when the young foliage looks its best. The gaudy scarlet flowers of the Japanese Quince (Pyrus japonica) are most welcome in the wild month of March, and open even earlier on a sunny wall. I must not omit to

mention the common Wistaria (chinensis), which I need do no more than name; but why do we never see that even more exquisite Japanese plant Wistaria multijuga, whose flower racemes are twice as long as those of the Chinese sort? This is the kind that is freely planted in Japanese gardens, and figures so prominently in pictures that are now familiar.

The sweetly-scented Winter Honeysuckle (Lonicera fragrantissima) is well worth planting against a wall; it is not very fastidious as to aspect, but on a warm wall its blossoms come all the earlier, and are therefore all the more welcome. It flowers in midwinter; although the blooms are of a shade that is truthfully described as dirty white, their fragrance saves them. How few plant the Passion Flowers out of doors; yet the blue (caerulea) and the lovely white variety Constance Elliott are perfectly hardy on a south wall, where they make rapid growth. I know a suburban garden near London where both these exquisite flowers simply revel on a sunny wall; they give freely of their wonderful flowers, and in early autumn the large oval fruits of dull orange colouring are most picturesque. Yet most of us still coddle Passion Flowers in a greenhouse!

There are other beautiful leaf-losing plants that are suited for wall planting, though rarely so used. The vermilion-coloured Trumpet Flower (Bignonia capreolata) is one of them. Abelia floribunda, that

bears pretty little reddish flowers, is another. The drooping red blooms of Eccremocarpus scaber (oh for that homely name!) are all too rarely seen, yet this plant will clothe a verandah pillar with leaf and blossom if the pillar is in sunshine. The roots are all the safer for winter protection, such as is afforded by a heap of leaves. The sunny wall offers an opportunity of growing some of the rare and tender Roses, among which may be mentioned Rosa sinica Anemone, with wonderful white golden - centred blossoms, and the Macartney Rose. The Weigela, or bush Honeysuckles (of which the finest sort is Eva Rathké, with crimson flowers), although commonly grown as bushes, are handsome against a wall. I have seen them flowering freely on both east and west aspects.

Then, of course, there are Roses and Clematis, ideal plants for any wall. It is necessary to choose Roses for walls with great care, for some favourite sorts, and notably Crimson Rambler, that thrive admirably in the open, fail miserably against a wall. The following varieties are suitable for walls of different aspects. South: Lamarque, François Crousse, Papillon, Mme. Alfred Carrière. East: Gloire de Dijon, Reine Marie Henriette, Longworth Rambler. West: any of those recommended for the south wall, together with W. A. Richardson, Bouquet d'Or, Gloire de Dijon, Zephyrin Drouhin, Gruss an Teplitz. North: Gloire de Dijon, Reine Marie Henriette, Félicité Perpétue. Any of the

Jackmani or lanuginosa Clematises are excellent wall plants; perhaps none is better than the old purple Jackmani itself. Jackmani rubra and Mme. Ed. André are two beautiful claret-coloured sorts, but there are now many charming named varieties-e.g. Marcel Moser, Beauty of Worcester, Lady Caroline Neville, and others that are named in the chapter on Clematises. The mountain Clematis (montana) is possibly the finest of all the Clematises for wall planting. It will reach to a great height, and I am happy in being able to give an illustration showing it at its best on a house in a London suburb. Clematis flammula and Traveller's Joy (Vitalba), that bloom in late summer, are really better suited to fences than a brick wall. One has only to name Veitch's Creeper (Ampelopsis Veitchi) to remind the reader of its value. Other useful self-clinging plants, in addition to the last named, are Vitis semicordata and Hydrangea petiolaris.

No wall looks its best unless planted with a fair proportion of evergreens to relieve its bareness in winter, and invest it with an interest in the flowerless season. Ivy is the most useful wall evergreen; not the least merit lies in its capacity for attaching itself when established. There are many beautiful varieties. The variegated sorts are bright in winter, but they often look patchy and out of place against a light-coloured wall. The best way to use them is to plant them amongst green-leaved sorts. I suppose the largest leaved of all Ivies is

dentata, but it needs a high wall and plenty of room. It is, perhaps, better suited to the open garden, where, draping a tree trunk or trained over a rough support, it is very handsome. One of the very best Ivies is Emerald Gem; it has the rich green colouring of the Irish Ivy, without its coarseness either of leaf or growth. Caenwoodiana is a charming green-leaved sort that clings well. The best of the variegated sorts is maderensis variegata; purpurea is especially delightful in winter, for then its leaves, which are green during summer, take on a soft purple tone. Gold Cloud is pretty in spring, although the leaves lose their rich colouring with age.

The climbing Hydrangea is an invaluable evergreen for a wall, up which it will climb to a height of at least 8 feet. In summer, the white flowers show to great advantage among the glossy leaves. A shrub that is rarely seen, although an excellent wall plant, is Azara microphylla, with small elegant leafage and insignificant, though fragrant flowers, that are succeeded by orange-red berries. Firethorn (Crataegus Pyracantha) and its variety Lelandi are quite familiar, and are commonly planted on house walls. Lelandi has more richly coloured berries than the type, and is even more attractive during the dull months. Escallonia phillippiana and macrantha are charming evergreen shrubs for a low south wall; they bear their rosecoloured blossoms freely. The Mexican Orange

Blossom (Choisya ternata), although hardy enough to be grown as a bush in the southern counties, is very beautiful on a south or west wall; it has glossy leafage and exquisite white fragrant flowers. The white summer-flowering Jasmine (officinale) is too well known to need description. The Honey-suckle most commonly grown against walls is the Japanese, with small variegated leafage. It is very pretty, but, as with the variegated Ivies, needs careful placing. Magnolia grandiflora, with large lustrous leaves, is a magnificent shrub, and on a south wall will give freely of its white fragrant cup-shaped blooms.

## CHAPTER XXIII

#### FLOWER ASSOCIATIONS

Gardening depends for its success largely on the careful disposition of well-grown plants.

COLOUR MASSES in a small border are apt to produce an artificial effect, and the free planting followed as a return from formal to natural gardening may come to defeat its own ends. But there are colour schemes that can be quite easily carried out in a small as well as in a large garden; they are suitable either for beds or borders, and are of such endless variety that, with a few suggestions as a basis upon which to work, each may carry out variations to his heart's content; I have called them flower associations. After all, gardening depends largely for its success on the careful disposition of well-grown plants.

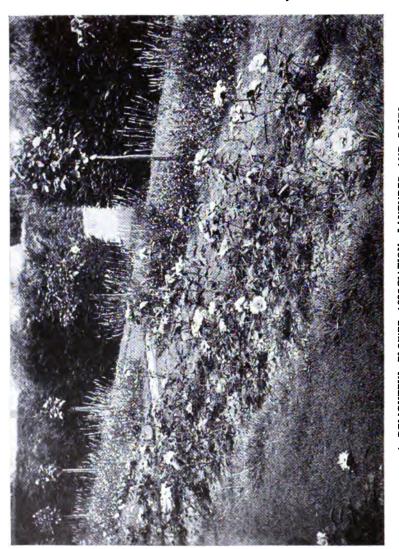
# Flower Associations in Spring

I think the first occasion on which the idea occurred to me of making notes on the subject of flower associations was on a day in March. I came across a bed planted with that beautiful bright yellow flowering shrub, the Golden Bell (Forsythia suspensa), each of its slender shoots wreathed in

bloom. Striking though this shrub was in itself, it was rendered especially attractive by the carpet of blue flowers that covered practically every inch of the ground surface of the bed. The blue flowers were those of the Siberian Squill (Scilla sibirica), a bloom of early spring that everyone knows. In March and early April the garden landscape is still bare, trees are for the most part leafless, and this absence of leafage served to impress this exquisite flower association in my memory. Since that sunny March morning some years ago when I was held spellbound, as the glint of the pale sunshine lit up the golden bells of the shrub, and added a lustre to the blue of the Squill, I have made notes of many flower associations. The old Glory of the Snow (Chionodoxa Luciliae), with its spikes of blue and white flowers, makes an equally charming carpet for the Forsythia. Snowdrops among Ivy provide one of the earliest flower associations I have to chronicle, and it is difficult to imagine a more charming picture as a New Year's greeting from the world Ivy grows admirably round about the of flowers. foot of a large forest tree, such as Elm or Oak, giving pleasant greenery throughout the year, where, more likely than not, there would be bare and patchy grass, and the Snowdrops seem to thrive just as well there as anywhere else, since the shade that comes later is too late to affect their welfare. Thus Snowdrops among Ivy have a double value; they form a perfect association and make beautiful



SIBERIAN IRIS GROUPED BY THE LAKESIDE. THIS IS A MOISTURE-LOVING IRIS AND ONE OF THE MOST GRACEFUL OF ALL. THE FLOWERS ARE LIGHT BLUE.



A DELIGHTFUL FLOWER ASSOCIATION-LAVENDER AND ROSES.

a spot that is often an eyesore. It is important to plant one of the larger Snowdrops among the Ivy, and not the common kind, since this is so dwarf that its flowers do not show to advantage. Elwesi is perhaps the most suitable (since it is the cheapest of the taller sorts); its giant "drops" peep through and show above the Ivy in a most bewitching manner. Ivy and Snowdrops will thrive under the evergreen Oak, but I doubt whether they would succeed beneath the Yew; in fact, I know of nothing except weeds that will thrive beneath the latter. Its foliage is so dense that undergrowth has little chance.

The variegated variety of dwarf Euonymus is a charming plant with light green and white leaves, that thrives admirably beneath large trees; it is, in fact, quite as much at home there as Ivy or Periwinkle. It is just as well to know its full style and title, which is Euonymus radicans variegatus. It is pleasant to look upon the whole year round, spreading quickly, and is quite indifferent to soil or situation, except that it seems to thrive better in shade than in sunshine. Plant Bluebells (shade-loving plants) among it, and you have an ideal ground covering for many an ugly corner that has been given up in despair because it gets no sun. This association reaches its fullest beauty when the Bluebells nod cheerily above the pretty Euonymus leafage that from a distance looks like a silver carpet. But it is never unattractive, except, perhaps.

when the Bluebells die; but then these die far more prettily than many bulbous plants. Their leaves are comparatively stiff, and do not "flop" like those of the Daffodil when the blooms are over.

Daffodils show to greater advantage among the ordinary green-leaved Euonymus (radicans) than among the variegated. The foliage of the former is an attractive deep green, and provides an admirable setting for the yellow and cream of the Daffodils. There is also this advantage: when the latter begin to droop and fade, they are to a large extent lost amidst the Euonymus. Thus this little shrubby creeper serves to show the Daffodils to full advantage when in bloom, and generously hides their ugliness when they fade. Truly one of the good-natured plants.

Ferns, Bluebells, and Star Flowers form an ideal association of leaf and flower for a semi-shady spot. The Bluebells and the Star Flower (Triteleia uniflora) bloom in May, just as the young fern fronds are making rapid growth, and a combination of these provides a carpet that might surely pass muster in fairyland. Then as the Bluebells and Star Flowers fade, lo! the ferns grow up and throw a mantle of soft green over fading flowers and withering leaves. All are plants to plant and leave alone. A walk through any wood in the month of May will show how Bluebells thrive when left to grow in their own wild way, and any Devonshire lane will provide an object lesson in the cultivation

of Ferns. The Star Flower may be unfamiliar to some readers. It is distinguished first of all by the fact that it has three names—Triteleia, Brodiaea, and Milla. I prefer the former, since it is the one I knew first, and it is, I think, most commonly in use. This, too, may well be left alone from year to year. Its large white star-shaped blooms are very beautiful. I have seen it used with very good effect as a ground covering beneath deciduous shrubs. Before the shrubs are in full leaf the Star Flowers have perfected their leaves, and this is all-important for the following year's blooming.

That exquisite spring-flowering tree, Amelanchier canadensis, that is smothered in white blossom in early April, looks especially beautiful above a groundwork of Blue Grape Hyacinth. The Flowering Peach is one of the glories of April in the garden, and the best variety is a deep rose-coloured one called flore rosea plena. If the bed or border containing the Peach trees is carpeted with the white Wood Anemone, the effect is beautiful.

## Summer Flower Associations

When the Oriental Poppy comes into bloom the purple Rock Cress is still in full beauty, and the two associate most charmingly, especially if the planting is on a bank where the dwarf plant may be seen to full advantage. A variety of Aubrietia recommended is Lilac Queen, which has unusually large blooms and is of exquisite colouring. Later in the season the scarlet Avens (Geum coccineum) and scarlet Lychnis (Lychnis chalcedonica) make an admirable flower picture if carpeted with the lavender Viola Kitty Bell. Jacob's Ladder (Polemonium Richardsoni), if associated with the pale yellow Viola Primrose Dame, gains an added beauty, while Cream Cups (Platystemon californicus), a beautiful little annual with creamy yellow flowers, if sown round about Jacob's Ladder in March, will bloom at the same time.

I suppose everyone has at some time or another come across the brilliant blue of Delphinium in association with the bright red of Crimson Rambler Rose; the combination, though rather crude, is undoubtedly striking. Far pleasanter effects may be gained by associating some of the paler blue Delphiniums with the Blush Rambler Rose, or one of the other numerous pale pink sorts, such as Leuchtstern or Euphrosyne. Day Lilies, with flowers in shades of yellow, are beautiful in association with Flag Irises in various shades of blue; both are common, easily grown flowers, and both flourish in a shady border.

The beauty of the white Madonna Lily is enhanced by association with some strong colour; this is well provided by that handsome orange-yellow Viola called Golden Sovereign. The white Lily is also especially pleasing above a groundwork of Viola Lord Beaconsfield (whose flowers are light

and dark blue), particularly if a few white Violas are intermixed.

An exquisite association may be formed by planting Hollyhock and Gypsophila or gauze plant; blush or crimson Hollyhock looks particularly well, especially with the double variety of Gypsophila. Purple-blue varieties of the Flag Iris associate well with the orange of the Welsh Poppy.

The great merit of a planting together of Japanese Maples and Tufted Pansies, apart from its beauty, is that it looks well for such a long time -throughout the summer, in fact, if the necessary attention is paid to it; both the plants are hardy and of easy cultivation. My attention was drawn to the merit of this combination on seeing two beds planted in this way. One was filled with Maples, having foliage of some dark shade, such as crimson, dark red, maroon, bronze, or one of the many tints that are found in the varieties of Acer palmatum; the ground surface was smothered with blossom of the Viola or Tufted Pansy called Primrose Dame, a name that does not, as so many flower names do. belie its colour indication. The dark red foliage of the Maples—plants some 2 or 3 feet high only and the primrose of the Pansies made up a delightful association of leaf and flower. The other bed in question was planted with Maples having light green or greenish yellow leaves, the ground being carpeted with Viola Maggie Mott, one of the very best varieties, with large, light purple-blue flowers.

Here, again, the association of colour was striking. It is essential to the success of this arrangement that the Pansies shall be smothered in blossom, so that not a bare piece of ground is seen anywhere; this is not difficult to ensure if roots flowering for the second time are used, or if the Pansies are planted in the autumn. It is no use buying, say in April or May, plants that are scarcely more than rooted cuttings, for they will make no sort of show until summer is waning.

## Autumn Flower Associations

August and September have no fairer flower than the Japanese Anemone, with its large handsome leafage, above which rise, some 3 feet high or more, the stiff though slender flowering stems crowned with blossom in white or shades of rose. A most striking effect is obtained by planting the Scarlet Lobelia (Lobelia cardinalis) among the Anemones. The Lobelia, of which the best variety is called Queen Victoria, has bronzecoloured leaves and stems, and showy scarlet flowers; and especially among white Anemones they produce the most delightful flower association imaginable. Quite a number of new varieties of Japanese Anemones have been introduced during the past few years; but there are few, other than Queen Charlotte, white, and Mont Rose, rosecoloured, as good as the old white kind and the rose-coloured one, both single blooms. Some of the



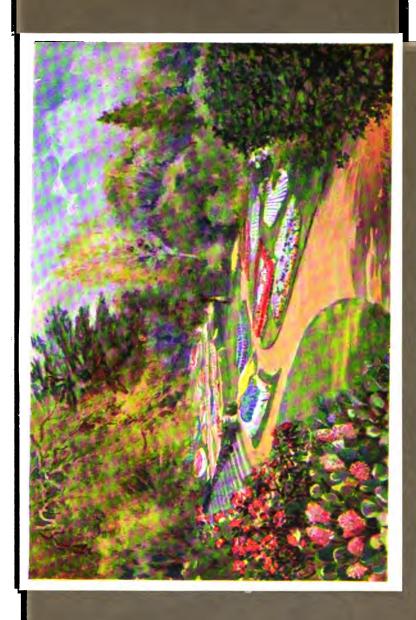
ONE OF THE BEST CLIMBING ROSES: FÉLICITÉ PERPÉTUE, FLOWERS WHITE.

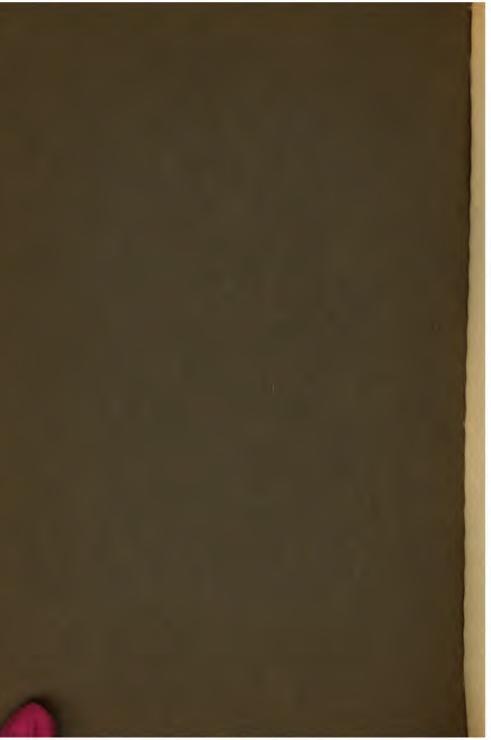


THE WHITE VARIETY OF JAPANESE BRIAR (ROSA RUGOSA).

newer sorts are semi-double, and altogether lack the grace and charm of the single kinds. If ever a delightful blossom was spoilt through doubling it is the Japanese Anemone.

One of the keenest gardening disappointments I remember was in connection with Japanese Anemones. I ordered a few plants to put out in a shady border where various other things had proved unsatisfactory-ordered them in response to an advertisement offering "Japanese Anemones." Naturally, I think, I concluded I should receive the old-fashioned single sort of which I have spoken; but alas! judge of my chagrin, when they bloomed the year following, on finding that I had planted just about the ugliest variety of this charming flower I had ever seen. They were multipetalled, the golden centre that is the glory of the single kinds scarcely showing at all; the petals were a dirty white, and they were notched. There was nothing to do but to clear them out or give them to less fastidious gardening friends. I mention this little experience just to show how very liable one is to be misled when one relies on the popular names of flowers alone. I believe I should be the last person to call a Wallflower Cheiranthus. or to speak of the Snapdragon as Antirrhinum, but how great a disappointment should I not have saved myself if I had ordered Anemone japonica rosea or · alba simplex, instead of relying upon the vague general term of "Japanese Anemone." I had no SPECING FLOWERS IN BELVOIR CASTLE GARDLINS, ORANTHAM.



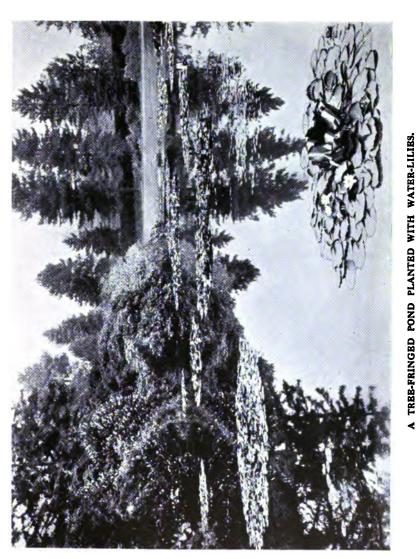


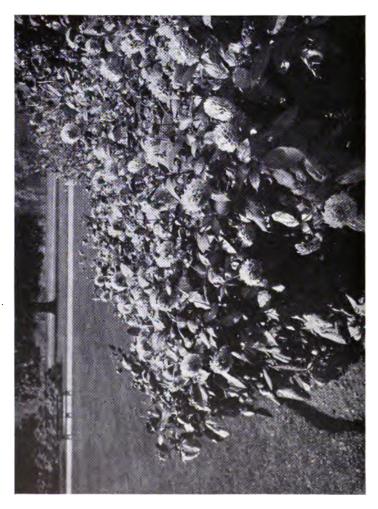
boxes, packing (not too firmly) between and about them with soil. The latter must be kept moderately moist until the growths have died down, and it should never be allowed to become "dust" dry, or the roots will decay. So, also, will they perish if the soil is wet. If you ask a gardener how much water to give them during the winter, he will tell you to keep the soil "nicely moist," and as this is an expressive, if not very clearly defined statement, we will leave it at that. The boxes containing the roots are stored in a shed or greenhouse safe from frost. In spring, when signs of growth become apparent, each root is best potted up separately, grown on, and hardened off for planting out in April among the Anemones. That exquisite blue summer flower, Italian Alkanet (Anchusa), may be increased in the same way as the Japanese Anemone.

One of the finest of autumn flower associations that I know is achieved by planting the Tiger Lily (Lilium tigrinum splendens) with Hyacinthus (Galtonia) candicans, which has tall spikes of large white, drooping flowers. The American Snakeroot (Cimicifuga simplex), which bears elegant spikes of creamy white flowers, is in itself a most charming late summer flower; it associates splendidly with an early flowering Gladiolus. Another pleasing combination for late summer is that of a group of Yuccas among which is planted the Japanese rose-coloured Lily (speciosum roseum). A pink or rose-coloured Gladiolus associates extremely well with

the white Japanese Anemone. The scarlet flowers and bronze-coloured leaves of the scarlet Lobelia L. cardinalis (Queen Victoria) look especially charming when commingled with the clear pale yellow of Calceolaria amplexicaulis.

The pink of Japanese Anemone Mont Rose is admirable with a pale yellow Sunflower and an interesting autumn association. Purple Michaelmas Daisies, dwarf varieties, such as Amellus, are very handsome when planted near Marigolds, while the tall bold flower heads of the African Marigolds look well when grouped among slightly taller sorts of Michaelmas Daisies. No Rose and Clematis associate so well as the orange-coloured blooms of William Allen Richardson and the purple Clematis Jackmani.





DAHLIA MRS. DORBY (BLUSH-COLOURED), A GOOD VARIETT FOR GARDEN DISPLAY.

## CHAPTER XXIV

### DAHLIAS FOR A DISPLAY IN THE GARDEN

The chief mission of a flower that hopes to win lasting popularity is to make the garden gay.

THE Dahlia is an admirable garden flower, but it has fallen into neglect, or at least, has lately made little progress in popularity, because raisers of new varieties have devoted their attention chiefly to improving form and colour of bloom, and have largely disregarded the question of suitability for garden decoration. Thus most new sorts, while making a perfectly beautiful display in the exhibition hall, are disappointing when one grows them. do not believe any Dahlia makes a finer display outdoors than the white Kaiserin Augusta Victoria and the bright red Glare of the Garden; yet to put these on the exhibition table would be ludicrous. If raisers would only put the qualities of profuse flowering and hardiness first and the form and colour of petals last, it would be a good thing for the Dahlia as a garden flower, for after all the latter only represent an arbitrary standard set up by the florist. At present so many sorts that are totally unsuited to garden decoration are grown in gardens that Dahlias have got a bad name for themselves. The difficulty is that an expert raiser of new varieties sees no beauty in a flower unless it conforms to his artificial standard, and the amateur grower who cares little for these things, but wants a plant that will bloom freely and throw its flowers above the foliage, finds no use for the exhibition varieties. Thus raiser and grower are at loggerheads. Why has the Rose made such remarkable progress in popularity during the past few years? Chiefly because rosarians have produced Roses that blossom freely and continuously; though they lack the fine form of a perfect exhibition Rose, they are unsurpassed for garden decoration. And for every one who grows flowers for exhibition there are thousands who grow them solely for the pleasure they give in the garden.

The new Paeony-flowered Dahlias are admirable in the border, yet many Dahlia experts who regard the Cactus varieties as the acme of perfection do not conceal their contempt for this class. None can deny that they altogether lack quality of form as exemplified by the best Cactus Dahlias, yet they make the garden gay, and, after all, this must ever be the chief mission of a flower that hopes to win popularity. I should class the Paeony-flowered, the decorative, such as the two I have named, the large decorative and the singles, as quite the best garden Dahlias. The old Show varieties lack grace, and the Pompons, though personally I am very fond of them, are too stiff. Some of

the Cactus Dahlias are good, but the selection needs to be made with care, or disappointment is certain.

I believe many amateurs fight shy of the Dahlia because associated with their cultivation is the work of lifting and storing the roots, starting them into growth in the greenhouse in spring, taking cuttings, etc.; all this does not seem worth while, when one thinks of the glorious flower display of the Delphinium, for instance, and remembers that, once planted, there is little to do but leave it alone. Yet there is really no need to go to all this trouble. the southern counties, at least, one may safely leave the Dahlia roots out of doors (as I do), providing ashes are heaped over them in autumn and left there until spring. In northern and midland counties the roots must be taken up, it is true, but one has only to place them in boxes, cover them with sand or dry soil and keep them safe from frost. I believe that for garden decoration the old roots give a better return in blossom than young plants freshly raised from cuttings in spring. If the flowers lack size, there are at any rate more of them. There is no need to start them into growth under glass. They may be planted direct in the border in April, and if given a little protecting material they will come to no harm.

Many of the Paeony-flowered Dahlias grow 6 feet high, and are admirable plants for the back of the flower border, or for planting in the shrubbery or on

rough ground that may be vacant for the time being. They produce large single blooms in wonderful variety of colouring, and are particularly handsome. When first grown in this country, only a few years ago, all the varieties were Dutch, and unfortunately had unpronounceable Dutch names. English growers have now raised some beautiful sorts, and happily they have English names. One of the most attractive of the newer sorts is Geisha, scarlet and red, a flower of gorgeous colouring. Queen Emma, lilac rose; Glory of Baarn, pink; King Leopold, yellow, and Queen Wilhelmina, white, are a few of the best, but a Dahlia catalogue now enumerates many.

Amateurs should grow single Dahlias from seed, which is sown in a heated greenhouse in January or February. The little plants are nurtured in pots under glass until late in May, when it is safe to plant them out of doors. They will bloom in the autumn. Mr. Edward Mawley, president of the National Dahlia Society, who grows single Dahlias largely in this way, says that in September and October he could imagine no fairer sight than the plot where his Dahlias grow.

The following Dahlias may be relied upon to make an admirable display in the garden:—

DECORATIVE.—Glare of the Garden, scarlet; K. A. Victoria, white; Orange Glow, orange scarlet; Mrs. Gladstone, pink; Black Prince, maroon.

GIANT DECORATIVE.—Jeanne Charmet, lilac pink and white; Le Colosse, yellow; Mme. Van den Dael, silvery pink;



A REMARKABLE PLANT OF THE HIMALAYAN MUSK ROSE CLIMB-ING A SCOTS FIR IN A GARDEN IN THE MIDLANDS.



ONB OF THE FINEST DAHLIAS FOR MAKING A DISPLAY IN THE GARDEN (KAISERIN AUGUSTA VICTORIA).

Mile. H. Charmet, white; Souvenir de Gustave Douzon, reddish scarlet.

PARONY FLOWERED.—In addition to those named the following are good: Sunset, shades of red and yellow; Duke Henry, crimson carmine; Baron G. de Grancy, white; Germania, salmon red and yellow.

CACTUS VARIETIES.—The following are among the best for the garden, since the blooms rise well above the foliage: Rev. A. Bridge, yellow and pink; Star, bronze yellow; Thomas Wilson, reddish amber; Primrose, sulphur yellow; Mrs. McMillan, white tipped with pink; F. M. Stredwick, white; Amos Perry, dark crimson; A. D. Stoop, crimson scarlet; Caradoc, yellow; Ibis, orange tipped with scarlet; Lustre scarlet crimson.

SINGLE.—Practically all the single varieties flower freely and throughout a long period. Some good sorts are Snowdrop, white; Alma, primrose; Rosebank Scarlet; Miss Roberts, yellow; Cleopatra, dark crimson; Mrs. T. W. Bates, mauve with crimson centre; White Queen, white.

Pompon. — Daisy, salmon and amber; Anne Holton, crimson tipped with white; Emily Hopper, yellow; Montagu Wootten, white ground, shaded lake; Norah, yellow with scarlet tips; Sunny Daybreak, apricot tipped with rose red; Virginia, pure white.

# CHAPTER XXV

#### ALPINE FLOWERS IN A COLD GREENHOUSE

Even as the garden slumbers, they awake to give us greeting.

It seems too good to be true that many most precious mountain flowers, at once the most fragile and most delightful of Flora's gifts, can be grown in a simple unheated greenhouse. Nevertheless, it is the fact. Under the prosaic shelter of a glass roof, in earthenware pots and pans, they will, under the guiding hand of a skilful gardener, burst forth in all their glory as bravely as among their native rocks and snows. The cultivation of Alpine plants is as a lodestone to the amateur gardener whose instincts are true, and whose enthusiasm is sound; sooner or later, nolens volens, he must acknowledge its dominating influence. There is a magnetic attraction about these dainty denizens of the hills and mountain hollows that compels the gardener to grow them.

The unheated greenhouse, with its more equable conditions of moisture and temperature, is an ideal home for Alpine plants: here they are safe from the keen winds that often sadly mar their beauty in the rock garden out of doors. Their tiny blossoms open pure and fresh, the fragile petals unsullied and

unscathed, and they come into bloom several weeks earlier than those in the open garden. Here, too, one misses none of the exquisitely turned petal and perfectly formed leaf, none of the matchless colouring of flowers that seem to have been dyed with tints from the sun-stained clouds they live so near; the fragrance that some exhale fills the imprisoned air—none is lost on the wings of the wayward breezes that wast to oblivion the delicate scents of the outdoor Alpine flowers.

There is a fascination about the plants of the mountains that even the Rose in all its glorious beauty cannot compel, partly to be explained, perhaps, by the fact that the Rose comes into bloom when the garden is in the heyday of its glory, when beds and borders present a galaxy of fine colour. Acknowledged queen in her season as she is, she fails to bring quite the same fresh charm to the gardener's mind as do the dainty hill-top blossoms, wide open to the winter sun while the garden is yet asleep.

Awakened gently from their hyemal rest by the gardener's tender care, by stray beams from the pale sun that filters through the frosted panes, they bloom—a right royal procession of Iris and Adonis, Crocus and Colchicum, Rockfoil and Cyclamen, Hepatica and Squill—even while Snowdrops pierce the hard ground, while Daffodil buds are ensconced within their leafy covering, and Tulips still await the call of spring to paint the ground with gay and gaudy blossom. Even as the garden slumbers,

they awake to give us greeting. In early spring a greenhouse such as this, where representative types are gathered together of the Alpine flowers of far continents, is a little oasis in a desert of flowerless beds and borders, a place in which to dream of distant slopes bejewelled with all that is fairest among nature's mountain plants.

The practical details of cultivation are simple. The plants are potted in flower pans or pots in May, as soon as the blooms are over. Throughout the summer months they are kept out of doors, plunged to the rims of the pots in ashes. They need plenty of water during the summer months; the soil must not be allowed to get dry, for when the plants are making fresh growth it dries During autumn and winter little water auickly. is necessary. The plants may be brought into the unheated greenhouse in November, and in a few weeks' time some of the earliest of the plants will begin to bloom. Some of the Saxifrages and Sempervivums make delightful little tufts, in time quite covering the pots in which they were planted.

Many of the smaller bulbous rooted plants are most suitable, and make a delightful show. Among them are the Squills (Scilla), Glory of the Snow (Chionodoxa), Angels' Tears and Hoop-Petticoat Daffodils, Fritillaries, Tulips, Grape Hyacinths. Among the Fritillaries the Snake's Head (Meleagris), with beautifully spotted flowers, pudica, golden yellow and recurva, scarlet, are to be





BLUE AND WHITE CROCUSES IN GRASS AT FOOT OF FOREST TREE.



DARWIN TULIP CLARA BUTT (PINK), ONE OF THE FINEST OF ALL THE MAY-FLOWERING TULIPS.

included; while of Tulips, the true species are to be preferred to the garden varieties. Anemones, Hepaticas and Dog's Tooth Violets are also in-dispensable. The Grecian Windflower (Anemone blanda), the Apennine Anemone (apennina), Wood Anemone and Pasque Flower (Pulsatilla), are all delightful flowers. Among the Saxifrages or Rockfoils, which need a gritty, well-drained soil, may be mentioned the yellow-flowered kinds-apiculata, sancta, and Boydii; and of those with white blooms marginata, rocheliana, and burseriana. Oppositifolia, griesbachii, and porophylla have red or reddish flowers. The Primulas comprise many exquisite flowers, notably the Auricula in its many varieties (Primula Auricula): marginata, with silvery margined leaves and rose-coloured flowers; denticulata, lilac coloured; and rosea, a lovely little plant with blooms of rich rose colouring. Primula marginata loves the sunshine; the others prefer The Whitlow Grass, as represented by Draba dedeana and D. aizoides; Wood Lily (Trillium); Star-flower (Brodiaea uniflora); those charming early-flowering Irises, such as reticulata, persica, Krelagei, and others; and Shortia galacifolia, with white bell-shaped flowers, are all very well worth growing.

## CHAPTER XXVI

#### CARNATIONS ALL THE YEAR ROUND

Just as the public are finding out the value of the Perpetual Carnation as a winter flower, the expert has discovered that it is invaluable also as a summer flower.

IT may seem a bold thing to say, but I believe it is true, that the Border Carnation in its present form will pass, and that the Perpetual-flowering Carnation will before long to a very large extent take its place. It is only during the last few years that the Perpetual-flowering Carnation has come to the notice of the public in this country as an invaluable winter flower. It is true that a few varieties, amongst which Miss Joliffe was the most popular, were grown throughout many years, but they proved a miserable failure as compared with the varieties, largely of American origin, in cultivation at the present time. During these few years the Perpetual-flowering Carnation has made immense strides in popularity, and even amateurs with only a small garden are taking up its cultivation; the plants are now grown in hundreds of thousands by English nurserymen, some of whom make a great speciality of them.

Just as the public are finding out their untold value as winter flowers, the expert has discovered

that they are invaluable also as summer flowers. In fact, they are so valuable all the year round, that I venture to say that in time they are bound to take the place of the Border kinds. It is remarkable, but it is nevertheless true, that one may strike a cutting of a Perpetual-flowering Carnation in January, give it the treatment described on a later page of this chapter, and it will commence to bloom in the autumn of the same year in the greenhouse. It will continue to bloom throughout the winter in the greenhouse, and if planted out of doors in May it will bloom throughout the summer.

Compare for one moment the career of a Border It is raised by layering in July or August, it is planted out or potted up in October, and it gives no return at all until the following July, and when it does begin to bloom it does so only for some three or four weeks. Can there be any doubt as to which of these kinds of Carnations is bound to win public favour in the long run? The specialist in Border Carnations may urge that the Perpetual varieties are altogether lacking in the fine form that distinguishes the first-class English Border variety, that they have a fringed instead of a smooth edge, that they lack shape and quality. Important though these matters are to the specialist, what value have they from an amateur's point of view, when compared with the merits of the Perpetual Carnation as enumerated above? Moreover, the criticism as to form and quality will not hold good

much longer, for only the other day (in October, 1909) a new Perpetual variety called May Day was exhibited. It had almost lost the fringed petals characteristic of the new American sorts; they had practically a smooth edge, and there is no doubt that before long we shall have a race of Perpetual-flowering Carnations, with flowers of as fine a quality and as perfect in form as the best Border varieties of to-day.

As to fragrance there is little to choose between them. It is true that what advantage there is, is on the side of the Border Carnation. There are some good fragrant Border sorts, and there are good fragrant Perpetual ones. Most of the new Border Carnations have no sweet scent, while some of the Perpetual varieties have. By cross-breeding between the good fragrant Border varieties and the best of the Perpetual sorts, it is quite possible that in time we shall have a race of fragrant Carnations of good form that are Perpetual blooming.

It is a sign of the times when growers who specialise in the Perpetual-flowering Carnation include in their list an article entitled, "The Perpetual-flowering Carnation as an Outdoor Garden Plant," and write that they have every confidence in recommending these Carnations for summer flowering out of doors, after having thoroughly tested them. I have seen them flourishing in gardens so unfavourably situated as in London and the near suburbs. Despite the town atmosphere they were in bloom

all the summer. In the famous gardens at Madresfield Court, Worcestershire, Mr. William Crump, the head gardener, has put out of doors in May plants that have bloomed the winter through; they were replanted at the foot of a Yew hedge and there proved a complete success. Messrs. Stuart Low find that the best results are obtained from plants in 3-inch pots, placed for the winter in a frame from which the frost is excluded: plants that have flowered during the winter also produce excellent results. May is the best month to plant out the Perpetual-flowering Carnations; almost any wellworked soil is suitable. Allow about 6 to 9 inches between the plants, and keep the ground well hoed during the hot weather. An occasional dressing of some good fertiliser if watered in is of great assistance. The Perpetual-flowering Carnation is not hardy, and in this respect it has to bear unfavourable comparison with the Border sorts. It must be protected from frost at least, and a minimum temperature of 45 degrees is advisable. seen plants that were left out of doors as an experiment killed by a few degrees of frost.

Carnations in winter are very valuable flowers, especially for decorative use. They have very long stems, and thus lend themselves admirably to arrangement in vases. In fact, I know of no blooms that fill a vase with more grace than Perpetual Carnations. A few years ago they were considered difficult to grow in this country, but now

most growers have mastered their cultivation. I know of one grower who found such difficulty in getting the cuttings to root that he used regularly to send to the United States for small plants or rooted cuttings. This method could never pay, for many died on the voyage; only a small percentage lived to produce flowers. Now cuttings are rooted in thousands—even hundreds of thousands—by English growers. The correct method is simple enough; the difficulty was that the correct way was not generally known. The cuttings made from side-shoots taken from towards the base of flowering stems form roots without difficulty if inserted during January, February, or March, in sand-filled boxes placed on hot water pipes in a greenhouse. It was in neglecting to give bottom heat that so many growers failed, or thought they failed, to get the cuttings to root. I say thought they failed, because the other day on visiting a garden where Perpetual-flowering Carnations are grown in quantity, I was surprised to learn that the cuttings are rooted in a greenhouse quite easily, without bottom heat at all. Cuttings may be rooted at any time during the first six months of the year; growers for market follow this practice, so as to have plants in bloom all the year round. If the amateur can provide bottom heat, either from a small bed made up of manure or from hot water pipes and will place directly over the warmth a box containing at least 6 inches' depth of sand, he



A CARNATION WALK IN THE GARDEN OF THE LATE MR. MARTIN R. SMITH, AT HAYES, KENT.



FANCY BORDER CARNATION LADY GAY (CRIMSON ON A WHITE GROUND).

should have no difficulty in rooting cuttings of Perpetual-flowering Carnations. The temperature of the greenhouse should not fall below 50 degrees.

Sunshine is an essential factor in growing winter-flowering Carnations, and full success is not to be had in its absence. It is next to impossible for amateurs to attempt their cultivation in the near neighbourhood of large towns, in the hope of obtaining blooms throughout the winter In late spring, when the sun makes months. a welcome reappearance, the blooms may be had in plenty; but sunshine, or, at any rate, a clear atmosphere, is necessary if the grower wishes to gather blooms in quantity from November to May. At the Royal Horticultural Society's flower shows, held periodically, there is a noticeable difference between flowers grown in the Channel Islands and those grown within a few miles of London. The difference is more sharply accentuated during the dullest months of the year, although still apparent in spring and early summer. The Channel Island flowers are noteworthy for their pure, rich colouring and general freshness. There is a tone about them that is lacking in the suburban-grown flowers.

The treatment of the rooted cuttings is quite a simple matter. When rooted they are taken up and potted in small pots, turfy soil containing plenty of sand and some leaf soil being used. They are kept in the greenhouse in a temperature of about

55 degrees until the end of April. During April they require re-potting into the flower pots in which they are to bloom; those of 5 or 6 inches in diameter are a convenient size. In May they are placed out of doors. The best position is on sunny, ash-covered ground, and there they remain until September, when they are returned to the greenhouse. They will begin to bloom in the autumn, and continue to do so throughout the winter.

One of the chief difficulties that confronts the amateur in growing Perpetual-flowering Carnations is the matter of "stopping," or "pinching" as the technical term has it. As these words may convey little or nothing to many amateurs, it may be well to explain that the term "pinching" means pinching or nipping off the point of a young shoot. This technical point does not occur in growing Border Carnations, but it is of importance in this case. The first stopping takes place in April, when the point of the young plant is removed; it may be either cut out or nipped off with the finger and thumb; the object of this practice is to make the plants produce a number of shoots, and so form little bushes, or, as the gardener has it, to become "bushy." A bushy plant is not produced by the shoots being pinched once, but several times, between April and the end of July. Usually, stopping the shoots two or three times is sufficient to induce the plant to become bushy.

It will be understood that, as the first result of

stopping the young plant, several additional shoots arise, and at the second or, if necessary, the third stopping, each of these additional shoots has its top pinched out. It is essential that the plants should be very carefully attended to in the matter of watering throughout the summer; they must on no account be allowed to become dry, and an occasional sprinkling of one of the standard artificial manures may be given with advantage during the season of growth. When, in September, the plants are brought in the greenhouse they need plenty of air during mild weather. Probably no artificial heat will be required, say, until the end of October, for a temperature of 55 to 60 degrees is quite high enough.

There is little to be said about their treatment during the winter months, except that the atmosphere of the greenhouse must be kept fairly dry, and an average temperature of 55 degrees Fahrenheit maintained, while it should not exceed 60 degrees, except when the sun is shining; then, of course, it will naturally rise higher. When the thermometer registers 55 degrees, providing the temperature out of doors is above freezing point, a little air may be given; but the amateur will find that an average temperature of 60 degrees by day and 50 to 55 degrees at night is the best for the plants.

The best time to apply manure is during the season of growth and when the plants are beginning to flower; just a little, as much as can be held

between the finger and thumb, should be sprinkled on the soil, say, once in ten days, and lightly stirred in with a pointed stick. Those who grow Perpetualflowering Carnations on a large scale find that the best plan to adopt is not to grow them in pots at all, but to put them out in shallow beds of soil. This method is followed by all the large growers in America and at home with wonderful results. It is quite a common sight in many an English Nursery to see house after house full of Carnations in bloom in mid-winter. The beds are commonly made about a foot deep, and consist really of rough slatebottomed benches raised some 3 feet from the ground. The soil used is turfy soil three parts, cow manure one part. The Carnations are put out a foot apart. Those who practise this method of treatment may, in early May, put the young plants in prepared soil out of doors, instead of in pots; there they remain until early September, when they are taken up and planted in the benches in the greenhouse. They need to be taken up very carefully so as to damage the roots as little as possible. and the house must be kept closed for a week or so afterwards, so as to induce them to make fresh roots quickly into the new soil. By putting in cuttings at intervals of a few weeks throughout the spring and early summer, plants may be had in bloom under glass practically all the year round; but, as I have shown, these Carnations do remarkably well out of doors during the summer months.

#### Border Carnations from Seed

Although Border Carnations grown from layers give such a poor return for the time and trouble expended upon them, Carnations raised from seed are far more satisfactory. They give, I think I might say without exaggeration, quite ten times the number of blooms, and if one procures the best seed the majority of the flowers are equal to those of good named kinds. To grow Carnations from cheap seed is an absolute waste of time; most of them are singles, and those that are double are usually worthless. One can buy a hundred of the best of seeds for 2s. 6d., so that there is no excuse at all for buying cheap seed.

Quite 80 per cent. of double flowers are secured from a sowing of the best seed, which is obtained by cross-fertilisation among blooms of the highest class. Seed may be sown any time from January to April, during the first three months of the year in a greenhouse, or out of doors in April. I have had quite good results from sowing the seeds out of doors in spring, but the finest plants are obtained when the seed is sown in January in a warm greenhouse. The seedlings are grown on and potted as they need it, in a temperature of about 50 degrees; towards the end of April they may be planted out of doors, and in September they are put out where they are to bloom. If planted in well-cultivated soil that is not too heavy, they make splendid tufts,

and in the following summer throw up masses of bloom. I have seen Carnations grown in this way that were like miniature sheaves of corn at blossoming time, and one could have picked armfuls of bloom from each plant. Apart from the rich harvest of blossom gathered, the great delight of growing Carnations from seed is found in the immense variety obtained. It is quite possible that some new variety of great merit may thus arise. Carnations grown from seed give little trouble; they are planted some 10 inches apart in April, in ground that has been well dug. If it is inclined to be heavy some leaf soil and sand may with advantage be intermixed; the ground is kept hoed during the summer so as to obtain a loose surface. In September they are put out 18 inches apart in ground that has been well dug and manured. They are perfectly hardy, that is to say, so far as cold is concerned, and they are less likely to suffer from an excess of wet than Carnations raised from layers, especially some of the new varieties, which are of rather delicate constitution.

Carnations are layered towards the end of July or early August; the growths at the base of the plant are stripped of their lower leaves, a slit passing through a joint is made up the middle of the stem, and this slit portion is fastened into the soil by means of either a layering pin, a wooden peg, or even a hairpin. It is usual to place finely sifted, sandy soil round about the old plants, into

which to peg the growths, but I have rooted many layers quite satisfactorily by breaking up the border soil with a handfork and mixing in plenty of sand. It is important so to peg down the slit shoot that the slit is open; the layers are generally rooted in about six weeks. From the middle of October until the middle of November they may either be taken up and potted or be replanted in the border where they are to bloom. If left just as they are, fine tufts are formed and one obtains an astonishing amount of bloom in this way. Supposing, for instance, one has layered six or eight growths on each plant. Most of these shoots will bloom; thus one has, say, ten plants blooming where only one flowered the previous year. This is a practice that all should perform who value quantity rather than quality of blossom. Although the Border Carnation is perfectly hardy, better results are, as a rule, obtained, particularly in town and suburban gardens, when the layers are potted up and wintered in a cold frame, since they are liable to damp off during the wet weather of winter.

BORDER CARNATIONS.—Some of the best border Carnations are the following: Agnes Sorrel, dark crimson; Benbow, buff; Charles Martel, scarlet and white; Cardinal, scarlet; Daffodil, yellow; Helen, Countess of Radnor, rich crimson; John Pope, rose; Hidalgo, yellow and dark red; Liberté, yellow and crimson; Lava, buff and rose; Miss Shiffner, pink; Miss Willmott, coral pink; Miss Ellis, lavender; Trojan, white; George Maquay, white; Mrs. Kearley, rose pink; Red Rover, scarlet.

TWENTY-FOUR FRAGRANT CARNATIONS.—Agnes Sorrel, deep crimson; Banshee, lavender and scarlet; Beauty, rose; Bella Donna, bright pink; Bertie, crimson and white; Boadicea, bright rose red; Burn Pink, pink; Castilian, rose; Charm, rose and white; Chloris, pink; Countess of Paris, blush; Cupid, rose; Enid, rose pink; Floradora, pink; Helen Countess of Radnor, rich crimson; H. J. Cutbush, scarlet; Much the Miller, white; Narses, crimson; Pink Beauty, pink; Queen of Scots, pink; R. Berkeley, scarlet; Tantallon, reddish chocolate; Twilight, scarlet and lilac purple.

PERPETUAL-FLOWERING CARNATIONS. — Britannia, scarlet; Enchantress, pink; Fair Maid, light rose pink; Floriana, pink; Gwladys, crimson; Harlowarden, dark crimson; Lady Bountiful, white; Marmion, rose and white, large; May Day, satin pink; Mikado, heliotrope; Mrs. M. A. Patten, pink and white; Mrs. T. W. Lawson, pink; Mrs. H. Burnett, salmon pink; Nelson Fisher, cerise; Robert Craig, scarlet; Rose Doré, bright rose red; Rose Pink Enchantress, rose; Victory, scarlet; White Enchantress, white; Lady Nora Brassey, wine colour; Royal Purple, purple; Winsor, silvery pink; White Perfection, white.



A GROUP OF EREMURI IN THE SHRUBBERY BORDER.



### CHAPTER XXVII

#### THE SHRUBBERY BORDER

The English shrubbery is often synonymous with dreariness and dull monotony, and stands sadly in need of improvement.

An English shrubbery is often a dreary place. Sometimes it takes the form of a bank of Laurels. and in shady places, or where a dense growth is needed, there is something perhaps to be said for this, for the leafage is not unattractive. I do not wish to extol the bank of Laurels further than to say that it is far more pleasing than a mixed arrangement of Privet, Aucuba, Laurel, Mahonia, and a few other common things that so often do duty for the shrubbery in English gardens. of these shrubs has merit: the Mahonia has great merit, but the result is not pleasing when they are massed in incongruous fashion. Most shrubberies are depressing from the fact that the shrubs used display so little variety of colouring, and are usually planted too closely together.

The shrubbery border is likely to give greater pleasure and to provide a far more attractive garden feature. It is both shrubbery and border; while it possesses a restfulness that is lacking in the garish display of many flower borders, it has a

grace and freedom and natural pose that no shrubbery alone can show. The shrubs are in clumps, the latter being thinly dispersed, so that suitable flowering plants may be planted between. Another reason why shrubberies are disappointing is, I think, because of their monotonous line of frontage, which is so frequently without grace and so often devoid of interest. This fault is remedied in the shrubbery border, which, being brought forward here, is made to recede somewhere else: these encroachments give an opportunity of planting many most pleasing flowering plants, and it is not difficult to make a suitable choice. To attempt to improve a shrubbery pure and simple by the same process of varying the outline may quite easily have the reverse effect: if carried to excess it is sure to prove disastrous, for the shrubbery can show little or no reason for it.

Among plants for placing between the clumps of shrubs none exceed in beauty or suitability the Liliums. The noblest of all is Lilium giganteum, that throws up a flower spike from 6 to 10 feet high and bears large white funnel-shaped blooms. But one never knows how long one may have to wait for the flowers, and, alas! after flowering, the little bulbs that form will not bloom for several years. So this giant Lily is not altogether satisfactory. The Golden-rayed Lily (auratum) never looks better than when rising from low shrubs, above which its large and handsome blooms are thrown;

it needs, or at least much prefers, a peaty soil. The Panther Lily (pardalinum) and the Nankeen Lily (testaceum) are admirable for the shrubbery border. The former grows 6 to 8 feet high, and bears orange-coloured, maroon-spotted flowers; the latter grows about 6 feet high, and has lovely buff-coloured blooms: both are vigorous growers, and thrive well in soil that contains a fair proportion of leaf soil, or really in any ordinary garden soil that is not too heavy. Then the Tiger Lily (tigrinum splendens), with yellow, black-spotted flowers, is indispensable; this grows 6 feet high or more. The Swamp Lily (superbum) is one of the noblest of all lilies, but it is more fastidious than others mentioned; it prefers—in fact, it needs—shade and a moist, peaty soil.

Among lilies suitable for grouping towards the front of the shrubbery border are the Martagon Lily and its white variety, 2 feet high; speciosum and its handsome varieties, Melpomene (crimson and white) and Kraetzeri (white), 3 feet high; elegans and varieties, notably Prince of Orange, 2 feet high; and Turk's Cap Lily (chalcedonicum), 2-3 feet high. These lilies, with the exception of giganteum and superbum, thrive in ordinary soil, providing this is well dug, peat or leaf soil or sand being intermixed when and where the bulbs are planted. The best time to plant lily bulbs is in October, when the leaves turn yellow. They may, however, be put in from then until the end of March

in mild weather. Even the most ordinary, closely packed shrubbery can be much improved if a few openings are made here and there, and such lilies as I have named are planted.

The Himalayan Eremurus (himalaicus) and Eremurus robustus are noble plants for the shrubbery border, so too are Eremurus Olgae and Elwesi; these have white or creamy-white flowers. The beautiful yellow sort (Bungei), with its slender stems of exquisite bloom some 2 or 3 feet high, is suited only for planting at the front. One called Warei, the result of a cross between the yellow and one of the cream-coloured sorts, has bronze-yellow blooms, and is more vigorous than Bungei. Plants of this type need careful placing; if dotted in twos and threes the effect is unpleasing, whereas if their exquisite spires of bloom are seen in clumps, they go far towards transforming the most prosaic shrubbery into a beautiful one. The same remarks apply to other plants of tall, erect growth, such as Foxglove, Tritoma (Red Hot Poker), Hollyhock, and Delphinium or Larkspur, all of which are suitable for massing in the shrubbery border. Other valuable plants for the shrubbery border that come to mind are the Plume Poppy (Bocconia cordata), the Pampas Grass (Gynerium argenteum), Goat's Beard (Spiraea Aruncus). All three are bold growing plants, with handsome white or cream-coloured, plume-like flower bunches on tall stems. They must not be crushed in between clumps of shrubs. They need

sufficient space for proper development, and are then most beautiful.

Among plants suitable for grouping towards and along the front may be mentioned the following. The Rock Roses are invaluable; they soon form little colonies of bright evergreen leafage and variously coloured strawberry-like blooms. The St. John's Wort, notably Hypericum calycinum, moserianum and patulum; the two former with large, and the latter with small, yellow blooms are delightful and suitable little evergreen shrubs. The Pernettya, with small evergreen leaves and purple, rose or white berries, and the Sea Hollies, notably Ervngium amethystinum, are also to be recommended. For placing near the edge, the greyleaved plants are scarcely excelled, such for instance as Lavender, Cerastium or Snow in Summer, the Pinks, Atriplex Halimus, and the Sage (Salvia officinalis), while Rosemary and Flag Iris are quite in keeping.

Flowering shrubs are of course quite indispensable; no shrubbery containing them can be dull. Shrubs with coloured leafage, especially those of bright shades of yellow, need careful placing; if dotted about indiscriminately they quite spoil the border, and give it that "spotty" and paltry effect that is so objectionable. But it is with the aim of showing how the monotonous shrubbery may be improved that I have included this chapter. How different would not shrubberies be if relieved by

clumps and groups of such attractive flowers and foliage as I have named. At present the English shrubbery is often synonymous with dreariness and dull monotony, and stands sadly in need of improvement.





FINELY-GROWN SWEET PEAS IN A GARDEN IN ABERDEENSHIRE.

### CHAPTER XXVIII

## SWEET PEAS FROM JANUARY TO NOVEMBER

We have almost come to believe that the Sweet Pea is one of the most difficult plants to grow, when, as a matter of fact, it is one of the easiest.

THE rise of the Sweet Pea forms one of the most remarkable records in the history of flowers. to picture the supreme delight of Father Cupani, a monk of a botanical turn of mind, when, in Sicily in 1700, he first came across the wild Lathyrus Would that some sympathetic medium could invoke the spirit of his soul and present to us his kindly ghost on Sweet Pea day in London, when a large hall is filled to overflowing with such flowers as even ten years ago one scarcely hoped to see! What a rousing welcome he would have, but he would never believe his ghostly eyes! There is as wide a difference between the up-to-date varieties of Sweet Peas and the original wild type, or even the varieties of twenty years ago, as between a Dog Rose and the exquisite Maman Cochet, or the incomparable Dean Hole, that pay court at the throne of the queen of flowers to-day.

The name of the late Henry Eckford is engraved in letters of gold on the scroll of horticultural

fame as the pioneer in the improvement wrought in the Sweet Pea, for it was his patient and persevering work in cross breeding and selecting that made possible the greatest advance of all—that which has taken place during the past ten years. The discovery of the Sweet Pea with "waved" petals—the Orchid-flowered Pea, as it was called for some time—by Mr. Silas Cole, gardener to Earl Spencer, gave a great impetus to this valuable garden flower. Since then—it was in 1899—the progress of the Sweet Pea has been by leaps and bounds; flowers in an infinite variety of colour shades have followed each other in rapid succession.

Nowadays, so popular is the Sweet Pea that everyone who has a garden not only grows them, but it seems as though most people were trying to raise new ones. The inevitable societies with their inevitable exhibitions have come along. One cannot for a moment deny that the National Sweet Pea Society has done a world of good in endeavouring (with success) to put a ban on all new sorts that fail to give a good account of themselves in independent trial, and in other ways, yet flower societies have encouraged a false standard, as all exhibitions are bound to do. It is only they who trench the ground 3 or 4 feet deep, putting a foot of manure in the bottom; who sow the seeds singly in small pots in January or early February, and nurse the seedlings in a greenhouse or frame until planting time comes in April—it is only such as they who have any

chance of winning prizes at Sweet Pea shows. And what is the result? Leaves as large almost as those of Cabbages, flower stalks etiolated out of all true proportion, and, instead of clustering gracefully and nestling cosily towards the top of the stem hiding it from view, the blooms are carried far apart by gross and unnatural growth, and appear finally, perhaps, as much as 2 inches from each other. Why, we have almost come to believe that the Sweet Pea is one of the most difficult plants to grow, when, as a matter of fact, it is one of the easiest.

The exhibitor is not to blame, since it is his mission to win prizes, neither, of course, are the societies to be blamed for holding exhibitions; it is the artificial standard that all exhibitions, whether of flowers, fruit or vegetables, encourage that is to He who has been content prebe condemned. viously to grow Sweet Peas to their normal height of 6 feet or so becomes fired with enthusiasm after seeing the displays at a flower show (for these abnormal blooms are bewitchingly attractive when tastefully arranged in a subdued light), and forthwith decides that he, too, will grow Sweet Peas in 3 feet deep, heavily manured trenches. A capital story is told against a Scottish amateur Sweet Pea grower. His trenches had been duly opened, and before they were filled in an army man-colonel on the retired list—happened to pass that way. stopped at a neighbouring cottage and inquired if an attack on the village was anticipated, pointing at

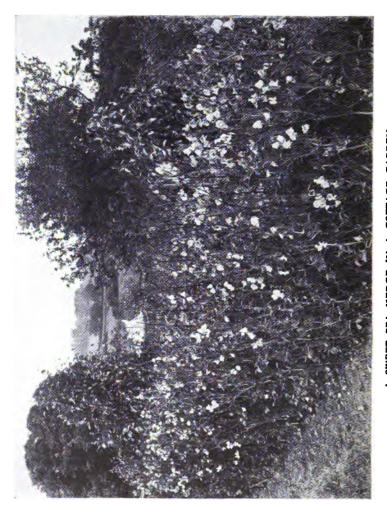
the same time to the Sweet Pea grower's garden. The good woman replied, "Na, na, my man, thae's for the maister's peas."

This intensive culture and excessive use of manures seem to have rendered the Sweet Pea susceptible to disease. Specimens of Sweet Peas have reached me in such numbers this year (1909) as never before. The Pea Mould (Peronospora viciae) and Stem Root Rot (Thielavia) are evidently spreading rapidly, and threaten to become seriously destructive. Many of those who grow Sweet Peas for exhibition have comparatively small gardens, so that the plants are necessarily put out on the same ground every year, or every other year, and the resting spores of disease find a congenial home in soil so highly charged with nitrogenous matter from continued and heavy manuring. Luckily our seed growers are never likely to follow suit. Sweet Peas for a seed supply are given field cultivation, and often are not even staked.

I hope I shall not be understood to be quarrelling either with the grower for exhibition or with Sweet Pea Societies. I am merely at loggerheads with the ideals that prompt the glorification of the fetish of size, the practice of a false system of cultivation, against which Mr. Robinson is never tired of preaching and protesting. By all means let the societies hold their exhibitions, and exhibitors win prizes, and both minister to our delight in doing so; but let us not think it necessary, or even advisable,



SWEET PEAS TWELVE FEET HIGH IN MISS BICKERSTETH'S GARDEN NEAR RIPON.



A SWEET PEA HEDGE IN A COTTAGE GARDEN.

to follow the exhibitor's methods when we grow the flower for its own sake and for its value in the garden. There is, however, one point upon which Sweet Pea growers might well take a leaf from the exhibitor's note-book; that is, in the matter of space allowed between each plant. I can affirm, without fear of contradiction, that if one has to plant a single row of Sweet Peas 30 feet long, more blooms will have been gathered by the end of the season from 30 plants at 12 inches apart than from 120 at 3 inches apart. Until one has given Sweet Peas plenty of room, little idea is gained of the way in which the plants will branch out and spread. Each one makes literally a bush, and continues blooming until November. Long before then the plant that has to struggle upwards in an almost vain endeavour to find light and air will have ceased to produce anything at all except a few seeds on the upper growths.

But to the practical details of my theme, "Sweet Peas from January to November." Briefly, this is how it is done: Seeds are sown outdoors from the middle of February to the middle of March, or in pots in a greenhouse in January or early February. These give rise to plants that begin to bloom in June and continue to do so until November. Seeds sown in flower pots of 6 or 7 inches diameter in September—the plants being grown in a greenhouse having a minimum temperature of 45 to 50 degrees—will provide flowers in

April and onwards, until those from an outdoor sowing are in bloom. If seeds of one of the early flowering strains are sown in September and treated in the same way, they will bloom from January onwards. There are three well-known strains of early winter-flowering sorts: the Télemly, Zvolaneck, and Engelman. They are not largely grown, and, especially near towns, their cultivation is most disappointing. The Rev. Edwyn Arkwright, who lives at Télemly, Algiers, introduced the Télemly strain, and he writes very enthusiastically about them in his sunny southern garden on the Mediterranean shore. Alas and alack! there is a world of difference between winter in England and winter in Algiers; and in England, particularly near large towns, they prove disappointing.

The chief care needed by Sweet Peas sown in September (whether winter-flowering or ordinary varieties) is to give them as much fresh air as weather conditions will allow, keeping them in a light position, and applying water to the soil only when it is fairly dry. In dull, wet weather in midwinter, the soil often remains moist for weeks without water being given. Quite the shortest cut to failure is to keep the plants in a warm and moist atmosphere. There, it is true, they will grow delightfully long and lanky, but that just about sums up their possibilities. An average night temperature of 40 to 50 degrees in cold weather, when fire heat has to be employed, is quite warm enough,

although on mild nights in autumn it may easily rise to 50 degrees without any artificial heat at all. The flower pots to use are those 6 or 7 inches in diameter, and in each one five or six seeds may be sown, putting them near the edge of the pot.

A suitable soil mixture consists of turfy soil and leaf soil in equal quantities, a fair sprinkling of sand being added. Until the weather gets cold, say in November, the seedlings may well be left in a cold frame, since the hardier they are grown the better. Growth will be comparatively slow during the dull weather, but with awakening sunshine, longer days and warmer nights the plants, being well rooted, will make up for lost time, and by April or late January (according to the sorts grown) will be in full bloom. An occasional sprinkling of any fertiliser, or an application of diluted liquid manure, will give vigour to the growth, colour and size to the blossoms.

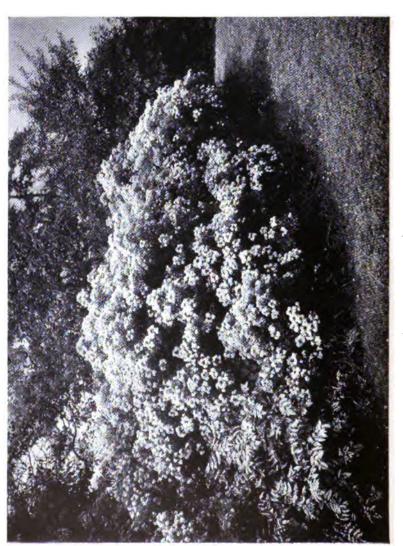
Growing flowers for exhibition scarcely comes within the scope of an Ideal Garden, since those who grow flowers for show will tell you that to everyone else except the exhibitor they are not always a pleasure, and often they are a nuisance. I shall not therefore go into such details of cultivation as an exhibitor would deem to be necessary.

Sweet Peas for garden decoration need ordinary treatment; beyond a certain point intensive cultivation not only does not improve them, but detracts from their value in the garden. This, however, is no reason why one should not grow them well, for

the Sweet Pea is essentially a plant that needs good though not excessive cultivation. Ground that has been dug to a depth of 2 feet, and in which, if it is needed, a dressing of decayed manure has been well dug, makes an excellent border, and there, provided other matters are attended to, Sweet Peas 6 or 8 feet high may be grown, plants that will blossom from April till the frost. In the matter of sowing seeds there are two alternatives: one may either sow them in pots or direct in the ground. There is no better time for sowing in pots than the first of February: for outdoor sowing quite the best season is the latter half of that month. It is far better to sow the seeds in the open ground than to sow several in a pot, if the seedlings have to be separated when planted out in April. Seeds should either be put singly in small pots or three in a 5-inch pot, the plants being put out intact. Sowing singly in pots is, of course, a troublesome task, and only in the case of choice varieties does the end justify the means. One may either grow them in rows or in clumps. Double rows are best, and the plants in each row should be at least 12 inches from each other. Six plants are quite enough to form a clump 4 feet in diameter, and many growers use only three or four. But really, the cultivation of Sweet Peas, as of most other plants, resolves itself into the application of a little care and common sense; it is one of the simplest of all plants to grow, and there is no excuse for failure. Unless precautions are taken losses



THE EXQUISITE SNOWDROP ANEMONE (ANEMONE SYLVESTRIS).



ONE OF THE FEW SHRUBS THAT THE NEW ZEALAND DAISY BUSH (OLBARIA HAASTII), BLOOM IN AUGUST.

undoubtedly will accrue, but the necessary precautions are so simple and so evident that there is no excuse for failure to carry them out.

Slugs and snails, as everyone knows, are extremely fond of the little plants just as they show through the ground; yet a sprinkling of soot and lime or wood ashes, or, better still, superphosphate of lime, since it acts quickly as a fertiliser, will do much to keep them at bay, and their destruction should be complete if one of those extremely convenient patent powders, such as Vaporite, Kilogrub, Alphol or Apterite, is applied to the soil as directed by the vendors. One buries a little of one of these compounds here and there in the soil, and vapour is given off which is said to be, and undoubtedly is, destructive to these ground vermin. Scarcely has one got the best of the insect foes than the birds begin to be troublesome; but they too may be quite easily kept away by black thread stretched tightly from peg to peg across the seedling plants. These precautions taken, everything should go merrily as marriage bells.

Soon comes the question of staking, and for this purpose there is nothing better than hazel sticks, which are so commonly used. Substitutes are found in the erection of wire netting in various devices, but for my own part I prefer the sticks. Not the least advantage of these is that in the autumn they provide a very welcome stock of firewood! What more can one say about Sweet Pea growing that

really matters, except that, it you would have a prolonged display of blossom, you must cut off the flowers as they fade.

Those of my readers whose gardens are in the suburbs where ground is scarce should on no account fail to grow Sweet Peas in tubs; they are altogether delightful, and once grown will, I am sure, always be grown. Some essential directions will be found in another part of the book.

And then comes the big question of varieties. these are added to at the rate of many hundreds a year. This being the case, it seems almost absurd to give a selection, for varieties that are up to date as I write may be out of date in a year or two's time. Nevertheless, the subject is such an important one that I must ask leave to say something about it. Everyone knows, I suppose, that there are two chief kinds of Sweet Peas, the Old-fashioned and the New-fashioned. The Old-fashioned sorts have a plain, regular - margined standard. The Newfashioned ones have a waved or crinkled outline; the more waved they are the more meritorious they seem to be considered. Each kind has its merits and its defects. The great merit of the older sorts is that they are fixed; in other words, if you sow seeds of a red variety you get red flowers, or of a white one, white flowers. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of the majority of the waved kinds; you may sow seeds of a red variety and get a rainbow mixture. This may or may not

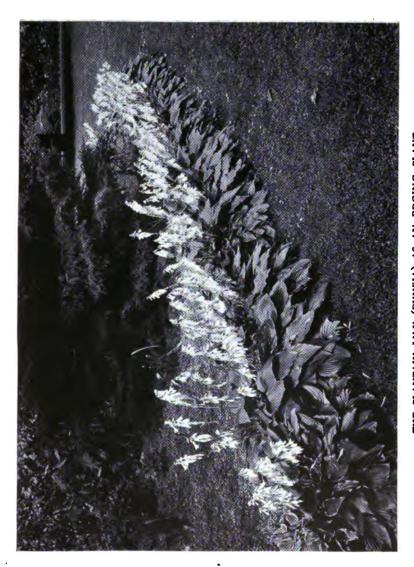
be an advantage; it depends upon the point of view. Luckily, however, quite a number of the waved varieties are fixed, and in the lists below I have collected those which I believe will come true, or practically true, from seed. As a rule, flowers of the older sorts are of more substantial texture than the waved ones; the vagaries of wind and weather affect them less, and when cut they last longer and travel better.

Having said so much, I must reserve all encomiums for the waved Sweet Peas. They possess a fascination, an exquisite beauty, that places them on a pedestal far above the plain sorts. They have grace, charming shades of colour, great variation in marking, and lend themselves most admirably to decorative purposes. If only they came true from seed and kept their colour well in brilliant sunshine and in heavy rain, what perfect flowers they would be! But let us not be too exacting; the waved Sweet Pea is not a flower at which to grumble, but rather one to welcome; not a flower to pick holes in, but one to cherish and enjoy. And, who knows, some day one may be able to announce that the waved Sweet Pea is fixed, and flowers that "burn" in the sunshine are things of the past. At present all varieties of those fascinating shades of colour that are best described, perhaps, as orange-salmon, or, as the Repertoire des Couleurs has it, I believe, Shrimp Pink, lose their colour in the hot weather, and for this reason are

best grown in the semi-shady border, for in their depth of colouring lies their charm. Waved flowers of crimson colouring are also very apt to "burn" in the hot weather, yet, curiously enough, the best of the plain crimson varieties, King Edward VII., is quite sunproof. However, there are now several so-called sunproof crimsons, and while I have no reason to doubt the raisers' descriptions, I am not able to confirm them because I have not grown the plants. And I have not grown them for the very good reason that, at the time of writing, seeds are not to be had.

Varieties with Waved Outline.—A. J. Cook, lavender blue; Asta Ohn, lavender; Charles Foster, rose and bronze shades; Clara Curtis, cream; Constance Oliver, cream and pink; Countess Spencer, pink; Elsie Herbert, white with pink edge; Etta Dyke, white; Evelyn Hemus, cream with rose edge; Helen Lewis, orange and rose shades; King Edward Spencer, red; Masterpiece, rose and lavender; Mrs. Andrew Ireland, rose and blush; Mrs. Charles Foster, rose and lavender; Mrs. Hardcastle Sykes, pink; Mrs. William King, crimson; Paradise Ivory, ivory white; Rosie Adams, mauve and rose shades; Sunproof Crimson; Sutton's Queen, pink and cream; The Marquis, mauve.

Varieties with Plain (not Waved) Standard.—Agnes Johnston, pink and cream; America, striped scarlet and white; Black Knight, maroon; Bolton's Pink, pink; Captain of the Blues, purple-blue; Coccinea, rose red; Colleen, rose red standard, blush wings; Dainty, white, pink edge; Dorothy Eckford, white; Duke of Westminster, purple-rose; Flora Norton, light blue; Helen Pierce, veined blue and white; Henry Eckford, pale apricot; H. J. R. Digges, claret; Janet Scott, pink; Jessie Cuthbertson, cream and rose, flaked; King



THE PLANTAIN LILY (FUNKIA) AS AN BDGING PLANT.



Edward VII., red; Lady Grizel Hamilton, lavender; Lottie Eckford, white edged with blue; Mid Blue, blue; Miss Willmott, salmon pink; Mrs. Walter P. Wright, bright mauve; Prince Edward of York, red and rose; Queen Alexandra, red; Queen of Spain, soft pink; Sybil Eckford, lemon and blush.

# THE BOSE GARDEN AT HATFIELD.

; .

(From the water colour drawing by E. A. Roue.)





towards an end as when the object is achieved. Even though the artist looks with pride on his finished picture, he is conscious that his happiest time was spent in the painting; to the gardener, sharing the delight of his friends as he pilots them round about his gaily filled borders, the epitome of his cherished hopes, the thought comes that he has had his chief reward in the working hours. His plans, if not his ideals, are fulfilled, but the joy of achievement cannot eclipse the pleasure found in the actual working.

No other recreation compares with gardening, It keeps one ever looking forward: the scene is always changing; the work, though old, is ever new —although the same, it is never monotonous. season follows season, the same kinds of tasks have to be done, but they come fresh and full of interest after the lapse of a year. There is nothing like gardening to keep one young; it is everywhere concerned with life, with fresh young life, and who can grow old in the presence of perpetual youth? Come with me, then, behind the scenes, where we are concerned only with the joys of plant increase and rejuvenation, where, although the canvas is the same, the scenes are for ever changing, and I will guarantee that your heart shall remain young even though your limbs are growing old.

Where shall we begin our peregrinations? Since we are to have a few months together, we may as well be methodical in our journey so that nothing shall be missed. Why not start in early autumn? We shall begin to realise at once how true it is that gardening keeps us looking forward, makes sunshine in our hearts while snow is on the ground. Our thoughts shall be of nodding Daffodils, of fragrant Hyacinths, of gaudy Tulips, of gay Musk Hyacinth and Anemone, and of other flowers of spring. There will be no time for dull moments, for each day is concerned with its own work or with thoughts of a bright future. Let us begin with the first of October.

It is astonishing how conservative amateur gardeners are. Every year with unfailing regularity they are told by their gardening papers to plant bulbs in September; yet each autumn, with a regularity equally true, they plant them in October. The reason is, I suppose, as in my own case, that borders still look quite gay in an average September, and it is quite out of the question to pull up plants that are in bloom to make way for bulbs. Still. it is worth while, if one can manage to do so, to plant Daffodils and Hyacinths in September, and still more important to put in Crocuses, Snowdrops and Aconites. Most bulbs are very accommodating. I have planted Daffodils and Tulips on Boxing Day and have had quite a delightful show of bloom in April, yet there is no doubt I should have had a still better display had I planted them two or three months earlier. What I am anxious to point out is that, if bulbs cannot be planted exactly when specialists advise, one should not be discouraged and omit to plant them altogether. This advice holds true in reference to much other garden work. It is the mission of plants to grow and not to die, and grow they will if one but gives them half a chance. This is, of course, no reason why one should not give them every chance.

It must be confessed that in a small garden bulbs are somewhat of a nuisance. What is one to do with them after they have flowered? Their dying foliage is untidy and an eyesore among the fresh young green of growth. Cut off the leaves and you ruin the bulbs; leave them as they are and you spoil the appearance of the border; pull up the bulbs and you have to invest in a fresh stock in the autumn; leave them in the border and they are a perpetual "thorn in the flesh," for when the borders come to be dug and forked over, one is continually digging them up or running the fork through them. What, then, is to be done? Well, the question can best be answered, perhaps, by asking another one: what sort of soil are the bulbs planted in? If it is just ordinary garden soil, somewhat clayey and heavy, getting very wet in the winter, then it is useless to think of leaving them in the border throughout the winter, and at the same time to expect a good display of blossom in succeeding years. One can get a good show from the common bulbs for one season in almost any sort of soil, for the bulbs are well developed

and well ripened when purchased. Hyacinths in glasses of water, and Polyanthus or Bunch-flowered Narcissi in bowls filled with pebbles and water, make quite a brave show without any soil at all, but afterwards they will be useless, because newly formed bulbs will not mature.

There are three alternatives open to the owner of a small garden in the matter of ensuring a satisfactory display of bulbous flowers each season. First, pulling up the bulbs and throwing them away after blossoming, a fresh stock being purchased each autumn. Secondly, taking up the bulbs after they have flowered, laying them in a sunny spot to ripen, and covering the bulbs and leaf stalks with soil; and, thirdly, planting them in soil that is suitable for their cultivation—a light, sandy loam. Bulbs are not expensive, and the first method has much to commend it. The second occasions a good deal of labour; if a large number of bulbs are grown it is probably worth while; the drawback is that the small bulbs or offshoots have to be planted in a reserve plot and grown on for two or three years until they reach flowering size, the large ones only being replanted in the flower border. The third alternative is, I think, only to be considered when a fairly suitable soil is already available. To render ordinary heavy garden soil suitable for bulb cultivation—to bring it to such a condition that the bulbs will not only increase but, more important still, mature-would probably cost



A CLUMP OF MICHAELMAS DAISIES, AUTUMN'S FAIREST FLOWERS.



ONE OF THE SHOWIEST AND MOST EASILY GROWN ROCKFOILS (SAXIFRAGA WALLACEI).

more money than would buy hundreds of bulbs. Those lucky enough to possess gardens in which the bulbs increase and bloom every year are, of course, to be envied, and these alternatives will have no interest for them.

When we plant bulbs in the wild garden, or in grass, they simply have to take their chance, and when a very large number is planted, some are sure to bloom. I have often heard the remark passed by people, when admiring some magnificent mass of Daffodil blooms, "Why can't I grow Daffodils like these? They flower freely enough; why don't mine?" A close examination of the plants—there may be even hundreds of thousands—would reveal the fact that only a small proportion are in bloom; out of so many even a small percentage of flowering bulbs make a rich display.

Plant bulbs in clumps or masses. One clump of twenty bulbs has a far more delightful effect when in bloom than twenty in a scattered row at the side of the garden path. I always plant a few Daffodils among my Roses and Carnations; they do harm to neither, and save the Rose beds and the Carnation plot from the reproach of dulness in spring. As soon as the flowers are over I pull up the bulbs.

"How deeply should bulbs be planted?" This is a question that is often asked by amateurs, many of whom plant them in haphazard fashion, digging a hole to what seems a convenient depth and dropping in the bulbs. However, it is better to

know the depth one ought to put them, and to try and approximate fairly closely to it, than to put them in without thinking, or without knowing how deep they should be. Naturally this varies according to the size of the bulbs. A good rule to observe is to cover the bulb with from 2 to 3 inches of soil; thus, a large Daffodil bulb such as that of Emperor will need a hole 5 or 6 inches deep, while other bulbs such as those of most Tulips need a hole only 3 inches deep. The same rule applies to Hyacinths and Snowdrops, but Crocuses ought to be 4 inches deep and Dog's Tooth Violets 5 or 6. In fact, it is better to plant a bulb too deep than not deep enough, if it can be better to do a thing wrongly! It is no use attempting to keep Hyacinths year after year; to have a good display, fresh bulbs need to be bought annually.

When planting bulbs in beds and borders in more or less formal fashion, it is important to put the same varieties at about the same depth; if some bulbs are 2 inches deep and others are 4, the flowers will also be at varying heights. The simplest way of regulating the depth of planting is to notch the dibber or blunt stick used at a point level with the surface when the stick rests on the bottom of the hole. By taking care to insert the dibber exactly up to the notch in making other holes, the bulbs are put in at a uniform depth. As has been pointed out, some kinds of bulbs need deeper holes than others, and more than one notch may have to be made.

# CHAPTER XXX

#### NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

One of the joys of life (of a gardener's life, at any rate) lies in digging in November.

THE advent of November tolls the death knell of garden beauty, but sounds the gong for the earnest beginning of garden work. Those who find November a dull month, in which time hangs heavily, when open-air recreations lose their charm, should take to gardening and so discover a new delight in the outdoor world, a fascination all-compelling even about the bare soil, a world of possibilities in a plot of garden ground. Then shall they find more consolation in "the mellow year hastening to its close" than the poet Hood, who melancholy sings—

"No comfortable feel in any member,
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,
No fruit, no flowers, no leaves, no birds—
November."

Surely Hood was never a gardener. "No comfortable feel in any member." How delightful this is! Let anyone take a spade and dig or trench a plot of ground; soon he shall feel a tingling in

fingers and in toes, then a warm thrill that tells of unwonted circulation, and before long he will stop on the pretext that he must get cool, but really to consult his watch for dinner-time! Why, one of the joys of life (of a gardener's life, at any rate) lies in digging in November. Some will tell you that it is back-aching, unpleasant work, fit only for labourers and navvies. Back-aching at first it may be; then so is punting down the river until you are used to it! Unpleasant I have never found it, except when digging for others. Circumstances alter cases. Some ancient philosopher has said, "I learned that no man in God's wide earth is either willing or able to help any other man." This is perhaps rather strongly put, but at any rate it is safe to say that gardening for oneself is much pleasanter than gardening for other people. I have done both. Let us, then, garden for ourselves.

What shall we do first? We must realise at the outset that November is the great month for planting almost everything that is hardy—Roses, border flowers, bulbs (especially Tulips), fruit trees, shrubs; in fact, almost everything that goes to make the garden gay and useful. I have en several occasions been asked to compile a tremendous list, or even write a book, showing at what season various garden trees and plants should be put in. That were easily done, but I should hesitate to send it to the publisher, for it would consist merely of a selection of favourite flowers,

and against almost every one I should place the magic words, "Plant in November." I imagine that even a modern Mark Tapley would have some difficulty in persuading himself that he had got his half-crown's worth, and in saying, as his illustrious predecessor, when too ill to speak, wrote on a slate, "Jolly!" Let us, then, plant anything and everything that is hardy.

Having, as is wise, completed the planting of bulbs (although they may, of course, still be put in, the May-flowering Tulips particularly), we may turn our attention to Roses. It is unwise to put any plant in soil that is freshly dug, for the reason that the latter is certain to sink considerably, taking the plant with it; if we do this we shall find that instead of planting we have buried our favourites. It is wise to get the digging done in October, and plant a week or two afterwards. Let the soil have, say, at least a fortnight in which to gain some of its former solidity.

Now how shall we dig—for there are three degrees of excellence in digging: simple digging is positive; bastard trenching is comparative; and trenching is superlative. Simple digging consists in merely turning over the soil one spit deep. (A "spit," O reader, is the depth of soil to which the blade of a spade will reach when thrust into the ground.) Bastard trenching (why are gardening terms so queerly worded?) may well be a mystery to the ordinary amateur; it consists in

which consists largely of straw impregnated with manurial matter.

Growing Roses for exhibition is another matter, for then the blooms must not only be good, they must be better than others shown against them. As the digging or trenching proceeds, the prospective exhibitor digs in some turfy loam, which, being interpreted, means turves, each cut into say 6 pieces with a spade. Turves that have been stacked for a year, with one layer of manure interposed to every two layers of turf, form an ideal soil for digging into Rose beds, or, for the matter of that, for digging into any other flower beds! In this case, half-inch bones and basic slag are of greater importance than ever. But really I am not concerned with exhibitors' methods, for Roses grown for exhibition scarcely help to the making of an Ideal Garden.

What do you think is an ideal soil for Roses? Well, here is an expert's definition that I have just come across. "A deep yellow loam of a greasy nature." Now that is all very well, but it is rather an expensive matter to fill one's Rose beds with deep yellow loam in the right condition of greasiness if one has to import it. It is more to our purpose to know how so to improve any ordinary soil as to make it fit for Rose growing. I venture to repeat that if even indifferent soil is treated as I have described, it will be capable of growing good Roses. But a suitable soil is not everything, for with first-rate soil some fail to grow good flowers.



A WELL-BLOOMED STANDARD OF THAT OLD-FASHIONED FRAGRANT ROSE, MME. ISAAC PEREIRE.



YUCCA ELLACOMBEI IN THE SHRUBBERY BORDER.

Improper planting will stultify the best of efforts at soil improvement, yet planting Roses is quite a simple work. The chief item is to make the soil firm about the roots. Common sense teaches one to make a hole large enough to accommodate the latter when they are fully spread out and to cut off bruised and broken ends. And as to the depth at which to plant? Well, if one takes care to have the junction of stock and scion—the knotty part covered an inch deep, all will be well. The advice is often given to put the trees in the same depth as they were in the nursery, as denoted by the soil mark on the stem; this, I think, is a mistake, for by covering the part where the bud was inserted, roots are likely to be formed by the Rose proper, to the advantage of the plant.

How far apart should Roses be placed? That is a poser. I fall back on the evasive and unsatisfactory reply that "it depends." But in this case it really does depend chiefly on the vigour of the respective varieties. Some grow into plants twice as big as others. Such varieties as Gruss an Teplitz and Hugh Dickson—which, however, have no rightful place among bush Roses, but ought to be against a wall—soon fill a small Rose-bed. Weak-growing sorts, such as Madame Jules Grolez, may be put 18 inches apart; fairly vigorous—e.g. Caroline Testout and Madame Abel Chatenay—2 feet apart; while such as Frau Karl Druschki must not be planted closer than 2½ feet or 3 feet.

On planting Standard Roses, the stakes are put in before the roots are covered, for the reason that one can insert them between the roots without damaging them; if they are stuck in after planting is completed, one is almost certain to break off some of the roots. The same rules as apply to planting Roses apply to border plants, trees, and shrubs; also to fruit trees with the exception that it is better to withhold the manure. Ground that has been well dug and manured, holes big enough to take the roots when these are spread out, working the soil well among the roots and making it firm, staking the plants if they require it: these are the golden rules for planters to observe.

Root-pruning fruit trees is an important work, which is best carried out in November. During the autumn I receive numerous letters from amateurs asking how it is that their fruit trees grow so splendidly, yet do not bear fruit. The answer is, that if they did not grow so "splendidly" they would bear good crops; the less, in reason, a fruit tree grows, the larger is the crop it produces—in other words, if it makes very luxuriant growth, invariably it gives little fruit. It is a wise plan to lift and rootprune young fruit trees in autumn for the first year or two after planting. If this is done, the gross roots that grow downward into the sub-soil ("tap" roots, please, in garden phraseology) are checked, and a mass of fibrous ones are formed, which conduce to fruitfulness. I have seen many fruit trees

(those on walls especially) quite spoilt through neglect of root pruning. Great thick shoots develop on the upper part of the tree, and in the course of a season or two the lower branches are dead or dying, or so weak as to be useless. The grower should aim at obtaining shoots of moderate thickness) and this can only be done by preventing the growth of extra vigorous ones.

Root pruning is quite simply carried out. One digs a trench about 2 feet deep, some 3 or 4 feet from the stem of the tree, and wide enough to stand in. Then the soil is forked away from beneath the roots. Any thick ones found are cut back as far as they can be conveniently traced. When old-established fruit trees have to be root pruned, it is best only to cut away the thick roots on one side of the tree one season, and to complete the work the next, and to dig the trench at least 5 feet from the stem.

It is in November that next year's plans are matured. This is the month in which the gardener must "spring clean." Beds and borders are dug, and planting is completed. It is all very well for those who have a part of the garden especially reserved for a spring display to say that all early-flowering things, such as Wallflowers, Forget-menots, etc., should be put out in September or October; but how is this to be done when such plants have to take the place of Dahlias, Anemones, Sunflowers, Gladioli, and others still in full beauty? Shall we take up or cut down these grown plants,

full of blossom, to make way for those that have nothing but healthy leaves to recommend them? Of course not: we must defer our spring cleaning until November, when flowers are a thing of the past and the garden clamours for a tidying up. Favourite flowers of spring are put out now where they are to bloom. If one has neglected to raise them from seed, then plants are easily and cheaply obtained at this season. They include Daisies (Alice is a delightful pink variety), Columbines or Aquilegia, Wallflowers, Forget-me-nots, double white Arabis, Violas and Pansies, Polyanthus, Dwarf Phlox (of which Vivid is a charming salmon-pink-coloured sort), Primroses, Sweet Williams, and anything hardy that blooms in spring and early summer.

Now is the time to search for self-sown seedlings, of which any garden worthy of the name contains dozens, especially of Foxgloves, Hollyhocks, Forget-me-nots, Snapdragons, and Wallflowers.

December is the dull month of the gardener's year, but it is the month for dilatory workers to make up for lost time. Although November is, of all months, the best for planting, one may quite safely put in Roses, border plants, fruit trees, and shrubs any time from the middle of October to the end of March, providing the ground is neither frozen nor very wet, and the weather is fairly mild. Even spring-flowering bulbs may be put in up to Christmas, but they will not, of course, make so brave a show as those planted eight or ten weeks

earlier. What the dilatory gardener would do if there were no December I cannot imagine. It gives him an excellent opportunity of making up for lost time, and of putting his garden in order before the New Year, which, no matter what the weather may be, always seems to me to mark the beginning of spring. On the 1st of January I feel that spring is very much nearer than it was on the 31st of December, for then I look for the first Snowdrops and Aconites, which are often found peeping through the cold bare ground. I know that, once they begin to bloom, the garden will never be altogether without flowers until December comes again.

### CHAPTER XXXI

### JANUARY

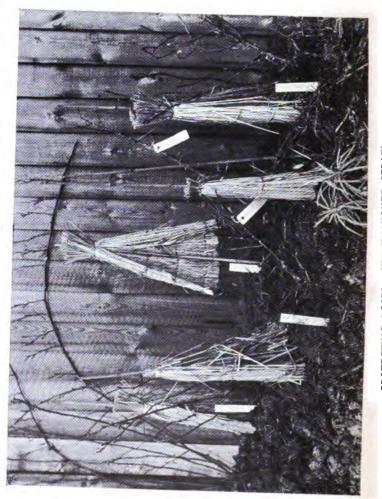
The garden is like some delightful picture-book; the turning of the first page is the most entrancing, since all the others lie hidden.

THERE is, I suppose, no material distinction between December 31st and January 1st, but the sentiments attaching to these dates are real and widely different. The gardener, I think, appreciates the difference more than anyone else. I know that on New Year's Day I thoroughly realise that a new year has begun—a new year full of possibilities, a year whose flight will bring to maturity the garden plans evolved during the dull, dark months of the past season. The year is young and it holds only possible successes — disappointments are vague spectres whose very shadows have not yet been thrown across the bright screen of potential garden beauty. One can look forward with undimmed delight, with unalloyed joy, to the fulfilment of plans carefully laid. What matter if some of them are doomed to come to grief, to disappoint? We know nothing of that, for once in a year we can only look forward, we cannot look back.

The garden is like some delightful picture-book,



TRUMPET DAFFODIL DUKE OF BEDFORD (PERIANTH WHITE, TRUMPET YELLOW).



PROTECTING ROSES WITH THATCHED STRAW.

of which the turning of the first page is always the most entrancing, since all the others lie hidden; looking back is different from looking forward. Still the great solace and joy of gardening is found in the fact that whether or not the future will see our aspirations realised, the present brings its quota of interest, its cup of joy. For the delight of a garden is found not so much in the work done as in the work doing. Let us, then, make the most of this month of looking forward; dream dreams and build castles in the air, dream-castles that will lose none of their glamour even though they may never materialise.

In January there is less work doing in the garden, and our chief pleasure lies in contemplating the work done and in looking forward to the upgrowth of a fairy structure upon the foundation we have built; let us hope that it may prove no mirage, but a garden full of real live beauty. If there are Roses and fruit trees, shrubs and border plants to put in, this work can be done when the weather is mild and fairly dry. Another outdoor task is that of wheeling manure on to vacant ground in suitable weather, and when the land is not frozen, digging it in. Not very exhilarating, you say. No, perhaps not. Yet it is surprising how much pleasure can be got out of prosaic gardening tasks when one's heart is in the work.

January is the great month for pruning fruit trees. One may prune all kinds of fruit trees

during January. Some begin to prune in December, some continue through winter until February. In a very large garden it is, of course, necessary to do this, otherwise pruning would never be completed by the proper time. But in the garden of moderate extent, where pruning is only a matter of days, I think January is the best month to tackle it.

I suppose, judging from the correspondence on the subject that reaches me, that pruning fruit trees is not at all well understood by amateurs; this is scarcely surprising when one knows how controversial a subject it is among professional gardeners. There is, however, in my opinion, a truth to take to heart; whatever may be the rights or wrongs of "restricted" or "extension" pruning, of "summer" or of "winter" pruning, none of them will succeed in promoting fruitfulness unless root pruning as well as branch pruning is attended to, more especially when the trees are young. In fact, I believe I could gather more fruit from an Apple tree whose shoots were never touched with a pruning knife, provided it were properly root pruned, than an expert branch pruner would gather from a tree that was never root pruned. In other words, I put more faith in pruning the roots than in pruning the branches. Prune the roots and the branches will look after themselves; neglect the roots and leaves take the place of flowers. I am putting an extreme case simply for the sake of emphasising a principle. Even when the roots of a fruit tree are attended to

properly, a certain amount of branch pruning is necessary. I do not think it is sufficiently realised by amateurs that the inevitable result of cutting back a shoot is to force that shoot to make secondary growth. Now, while in Rose trees, for example, we wish to induce the formation of secondary growths, that each may carry a blossom and so reward us with a fine display, I am sure no one prunes an Apple tree with the object of encouraging still more shoots, yet more often than not this is the result, and it follows on excessive and injudicious pruning.

Nearly all fruit trees (Peach, Nectarine, Morello Cherry, and Black Currant are exceptions) bear fruit on short sturdy outgrowths from the main branches—"spurs" they are technically called. The object of the cultivator is to have as many of these on the tree as there is room for; it is commonly advised that they should not be less than 15 inches apart. I am sure that pruning the roots so as to check exuberant growth, and so prevent the necessity of much pruning of shoots, is the best method of producing fruit spurs.

In the notes under the heading of November (the best month for root pruning) it is advised that young fruit trees be root pruned while young. This has the effect of preventing that very vigorous growth that so often follows the planting of young fruit trees. Gross growths in fruit trees are useless; cut them back, and others grow still more strongly;

cut them out, and later others will grow. The mischief lies at the roots, and it is by pruning there that it can be remedied. But I imagine someone saying, even if the roots are looked after in the way you suggest, surely some branch pruning becomes necessary to keep the tree symmetrical and properly balanced? That is so. I do not wish to appear to condemn careful branch pruning, but I do say that the more carefully branch growth is regulated by pruning the roots, the more successful the trees are likely to be. The commonly practised method of pruning fruit trees that bear their fruit on spurs is simplicity itself; during summer all side or lateral shoots (in other words, those not required for extension of the tree) are "pinched" or "stopped" (i.e. their point is taken out) when they have formed six or seven leaves, not counting the small leaves at the extreme base; in January these shoots are further cut back to within two or three buds of the base. The terminal shoots are stopped about the middle of July, and about one-third of the previous summer's growth is cut off in January. Now this practice may be all very well; I believe it to be quite a good one if the roots are kept well under control and the tree is not allowed to make gross growth. In these circumstances the summer and winter pruning as detailed above make for fruitfulness; if, however, root pruning is neglected, this branch pruning will in time produce a thicket of useless growths. A well-trained fruit tree should consist of a number of branches quite 15 to 18 inches apart, and each branch should be clothed—not crowded—with fruit spurs. Systematic root pruning, together with careful branch regulation on the lines laid down, will bring about this result.

The Apple, Pear, and Plum trees may be classed together with regard to pruning. Sweet Cherry forms clusters of fruit buds directly on the old branches, and an established tree needs very little pruning. Shoots other than terminal shoots are stopped at six or seven leaves during the summer and cut back to two or three buds in January. The Morello Cherry, like the Peach and Nectarine, bears fruit upon the previous season's growth; thus, obviously, the object is to cut out the older shoots after the fruit is gathered, and to train in the young shoots, that they may bear fruit the following year. There often arises an opportunity of training in a young shoot here and there in Apple, Pear, Plum, and Cherry trees. This should be done whenever space allows; they will eventually bear fruit freely.

The pruning of bush fruits offers few difficulties providing the manner in which they bear fruit is considered. The Black Currant produces most fruit on growths of the previous season, therefore it is obvious that old shoots are of little value; it is young growths that are needed. Pruning Black Currants resolves itself into cutting out the oldest shoots for which there is no room. It is of the first

importance that the shoots are not crowded, and the first to be removed are those that have borne fruit. Red and White Currants are pruned alike, but quite differently from the Black Currant. The fruit is produced chiefly on spurs, short sturdy side growths: these are stopped or pinched in July and are cut back in winter to within an inch of the base. The leading shoots of the bush are allowed to progress at the rate of 8 or 9 inches a year, until they have reached the required height. Side shoots will then form, and in summer and winter are pruned as advised above. In pruning Gooseberries, one year old shoots, slightly shortened, must be allowed to remain where there is room; side shoots are treated like those of Red Currants.

Where so many amateurs fail in fruit growing, and especially, perhaps, with Gooseberry bushes, is in allowing too many branches to form, in cutting back instead of thinning out. Cutting back the shoots causes others to grow, and if injudiciously carried out makes matters worse than ever, while thinning out exposes the growths left to air and sunshine; getting rid of superfluous shoots it makes the most of those remaining. All bush fruit trees when young need to be pruned hard for a year or two after planting.

Pruning vines in greenhouses often places an amateur in difficulties, yet it is perfectly simple. One has only to remember that grapes are produced on fresh green growths, and that the kind of shoots

calculated to give the best bunches are produced by cutting back the lateral or side shoots of the previous summer to within two buds of the base. When a vine is established it consists of one or more stems, and at intervals of 15 or 18 inches on the stem there are lateral shoots that bear leaves and fruits. Each year, in January, the past summer's growth, which by January has become hard and woody, is cut back, only two buds being left at the base. Each of these buds is calculated to produce a green shoot; as soon as it can be seen which of the two shoots has a bunch, the other is rubbed off. If each has a bunch, or if neither has a bunch, retain the stronger shoot.

In the January following, the same method of cutting back the new growth is repeated, and as a result a "spur" or rough woody enlargement forms near the stem. Newly planted vines are best cut down to within 6 or 9 inches of the soil; when the buds start into growth a strong young shoot is selected to form the future stem, the other growths being rubbed off. The selected shoot will probably grow 8 feet long by the end of the summer. In January it should be cut back to within 3 feet of the base. Only 3 feet of the fresh stem growth is allowed to remain each year until the top of the vinery is reached; meanwhile, of course, lateral shoots will form and bear fruit.

## CHAPTER XXXII

#### **FEBRUARY**

Most amateur gardeners are far too late in coming out of their shell, far too early in creeping into it.

I ALWAYS hail with joy the advent of February, because then, among much other pleasant gardening work. I can sow Sweet Peas out of doors. To those who are in the habit of waiting for the genial, if erratic, sunshine and embarrassing showers of April before they venture to sow Sweet Peas, February may seem early to put them in. As a matter of fact, the middle of February is quite the best time of all to sow Sweet Peas in the open garden. Most amateur gardeners are far too late in coming out of their shell, far too early in creeping into it. It is the long winter neglect that tells a tale when the season of growth begins in earnest. The plants fail to respond as they should do, and, only half rooted, sulk beneath the ground. But spring, with its rain and shine, will have none of it, and through the soil the green leaves come long before they are really ready, some without their blossoms.

I have tried to show how much enjoyment there is in garden work in November, the great month of preparation for another gardening year, and if

amateurs would only not forsake their garden work with the passing of the flowers, both they and the garden would be the gainers.

We will assume that the ground has been prepared some time between the end of October and the end of January by digging and manuring, as explained in the notes for November. grower wishes to have Sweet Peas for exhibition he will, of course, have trenched the soil, putting plenty of manure at the bottom; if he grows only for garden decoration, then the soil need only be dug two spits deep, and a light dressing of manure worked in. How far apart to sow the seeds? Well, for ordinary garden decoration, 12 inches is a good distance to have between each plant. If seeds are sown at 6 inches apart, the seedlings can be thinned out to 12 inches apart. One may, of course, sow them much more thickly, but no more flowers from a given plot of ground will be obtained. It is a moot point whether, even when Sweet Peas are grown for exhibition, it is better to sow them out of doors in February or in pots in the greenhouse in January, for planting out in April.

If any amateur, wishing to get the best results from his garden, has any spare time during the winter months, he should never hesitate about digging vacant ground when the soil is neither frozen nor very wet. In February particularly the ground crumbles readily at the touch of spade or fork, and a fine tilth is easily obtained. The dictionary explan-

ation of "tilth" is that which is tilled, but it does not in any way explain the significance of "tilth" as the gardener understands it. Tilth means a great deal more than that. It conveys to a gardener that most satisfactory state of the soil when, after weeks of frost, rain, and snow, the big, hard lumps fall into a powdered mass—a mass of fine particles that form an ideal medium for germinating seeds and sprouting plants.

I know of no other favourite flower seeds that may be sown out of doors in February. The advice to plant Roses, shrubs, and other hardy plants still holds good, so long as the weather keeps fair, until the end of March. One may still plant Anemones, so as to prolong the display of blossom. Roses on walls often need pruning late in February. They start into growth early, and if pruning is delayed there is danger of rubbing off many of the shoots. Instructions as to pruning are contained in the next chapter.

# CHAPTER XXXIII

#### MARCH

The busy gardener has no time to heed the weather; moments are precious in March; work is pressing and brooks no delay.

I HAVE a warm corner in my heart for March, not so much, perhaps, for the month itself as for the work it brings and the eager anticipations it conjures up. Joyful visions of budding growth and shoots yielding up their blossoms throng in upon me. Even as I brave the keen east wind, and dig and plant and sow, such thoughts take the edge off the biting blast and turn shadow into sunshine. Such thoughts must have prompted William Morris when he wrote:—

"Slayer of the winter, art thou here again?
O welcome thou that bring'st the summer nigh!
The bitter wind makes not the victory vain,
Nor will we mock thee for thy faint blue sky."

From a gardener's point of view, March and November are the two most important months in the year. It would be possible to have a garden quite gay (although I am afraid it would be rather untidy) by attending to it during March and November only. As was pointed out, November

is the great month for planting anything that is hardy; bulbs or fruit trees, Roses or shrubs, or border flowers can be put out then with every prospect of giving a good account of themselves. March is the month for seed sowing out of doors, for pruning, and for making final preparations generally; and planting should be completed. Anything (except of course, early spring flowers) that was recommended for November planting may be planted in March, e.g. Roses, fruit trees, border plants. The display during the first year will not be so good as from the November planting, but it will "save a season."

Let us turn our attention to the Rose garden, for it is perhaps there that the chief work lies. It would be an interesting occupation for some statistically inclined person to compute how many miles of notes have been written about Roses: it seems impossible that there can still remain anything unsaid about Rose growing that is worth saying. However much may have been taught on the subject, it is encouraging to a writer to know that there are many who have not learnt. Realising this, I turn to the subject of Rose pruning with a lighter heart than otherwise I should have done. There are two chief things to be done in the Rose garden during Marchpruning and manuring; and the former is carried out first. The first thing to impress upon the reader is to cut back to within two or three buds



A HARDY ORCHID (ORCHIS LATIFOLIA).



A SPLENDID CLUMP OF LUPIN.



ONE OF THE FINEST OF THE POET'S NARCISSI, NAMED THE BRIDE (WHITE WITH ORANGE RED CENTRE).

of the ground the shoots of any Roses planted during or since the previous November.

I scarcely dare hope that all my readers will have the courage to put this precept into practice. I have on many occasions told gardening friends that this is what they should do with their Roses the first spring after planting; they are perhaps persuaded to cut back the dwarf Roses, but they have not the heart to cut down the strong, healthylooking shoots, perhaps 6 feet long, on a climbing Rose: they must have bloom the first year. This marks the parting of the ways: one has either to make up one's mind to sacrifice blossom the first year, or else be content to watch the plants struggle into vigorous growth instead of getting there by leaps and bounds. I could show many examples, even in my own garden, of climbing Roses, which, although practically invisible in March, were in September of the same year possessed of several shoots 8 feet or more in length. The next year they blossomed from every bud. Rose pruning is ruthless work; severe pruning the first season has compensating advantages, for in succeeding years there is little pruning to be done, so far as climbing Roses are concerned.

The pruning that established climbing Roses need in March is limited to cutting back the side shoots or secondary growths from branches more than one season old; these are cut back to within, say, three buds of the base; each of those three

buds is calculated to produce a shoot and a bunch of flowers. The pruning proper of climbing Roses, when some of the older shoots are cut out, should be done in August or early September.

The chief pruning of bush Roses is carried out in March or early April: for the south and south midland counties, hybrid perpetuals and hybrid teas are best pruned the third week in March, tea Roses being left till the first week in April. Gardeners farther north may well defer pruning for another ten or twelve days. The first thing to do in pruning bush Roses is to cut away the weakly shoots that are unlikely to produce flowers; the next thing to do is to secure what is known as the open centre—that is, one removes any shoots that tend to block up the middle of the plant. Well-pruned Roses should be more or less cup-shaped, and this end is easily achieved by cutting out shoots that tend to grow towards the centre of the plant, and cutting back others to a bud that points away from the centre. As to how far the shoots of the bush Rose are to be pruned back depends upon their vigour and to what is the object in view.

If Roses are grown for exhibition, all the shoots are cut hard back to within two or three buds of their base; if the Roses are grown for garden decoration and for providing cut flowers, the shoots are left at varying lengths. The knowledge of varieties counts for a great deal in Rose pruning,

and this, of course, can only be gained by actual experience; it is scarcely possible to impart it through the medium of the written page.

After pruning comes the clearing up; and here it may be worth while to put in a good word for the prunings or leavings. Many of these bits of shoots make admirable Rose cuttings; and if one is anxious to fill the garden with home grown Roses, they are certainly not to be discarded. A friend of mine who is only a very elementary amateur gardener, makes a regular practice of saving all the best pieces of growth which are cut off at pruning time, and sticks them in the ground. Naturally they are not very ornamental, so he puts them in a bed of soil made up in some corner out of the way. A little border at the foot of a fence facing north suits well. In this way he has raised many dozens of Roses; although by this haphazard method many of them die, a fair proportion take root. A much better method, and one that is more certain, is to select all the best of the prunings and make them into cuttings. The best in this case signifies those shoots that are not thinner than a penholder, and are firm. They are prepared by cutting beneath a bud or joint; and it is of importance that a sharp knife be used, otherwise the wood will be bruised. If the cuttings can be made not less than 9 inches long, so much the better; but those over 4 inches long will do. They will quickly form roots if inserted in pots of sandy soil, the latter being placed in a greenhouse—even in

chance to grow. Probably one of the chief reasons for the waste of seeds that is so general is that one is over anxious to fill one's garden with blossom, and incidentally because seeds are so cheap that a packet invariably contains more than the average gardener requires or has room for.

It is unwise to disturb the seedlings of hardy annuals, and all one can do to minimise the folly of sowing too thickly is to thin out the seedlings. A certain amount of thinning out has to be done, since one cannot sow just enough seeds to fill a certain space. Annual flowers are poor, weedy things in many gardens, and the majority of those who grow them have no idea of their real value or their full possibilities. It is because they have been so indifferently treated that they have to some extent acquired a bad name. If one looks upon them as stop-gaps, as useful for sowing just where there chance to be vacant patches in the border between perennial plants, naturally under such conditions they are weakly, their flowers are small and disappointing, and the blossoming season is spoilt. They quickly pass their best, and, instead of being an ornament, are an eyesore in the border to which they would have added much beauty had they been given a proper chance. I would like those readers who have a poor opinion of the value of hardy annuals to sow three seeds of each of several kinds in a small flower pot, and when it can be seen which of the three plants is the best, to pinch off the other



A FAVOURITE AND EASILY GROWN ROCK PLANT (SILENE ALPESTRIS).



PLOWERS IN THE KITCHEN GARDEN. A GROUP OF SHASTA DAISIES (CHRYSANTHEMUM

two; to grow on the remaining seedling carefully until the pot is full of roots, then plant out where it will have room to grow and where it will have its full share of soil and sunshine. I feel sure the result will be a revelation to those who have hitherto deprecated this most useful and most beautiful class of flowers. I have seen annual Chrysanthemums, Mallows, Larkspurs, Love-in-a-Mist, and others that were dense bushes of blossom, remaining in flower and perfect beauty for many weeks together.

In some famous gardens a feature is made of borders of annual flowers, and for rich and brilliant colouring and for profusion of blossom there is nothing in the garden during high summer to compare with them. I have seen gardens filled with annual flowers, notably in Mr. Leopold de Rothschild's garden at Gunnersbury, in the Earl of Plymouth's garden at St. Fagan's, and Earl Beauchamp's garden at Madresfield. It is only when one sees a garden planted with them that one realises the charm of this class of plants. Throughout July and August these gardens are admired by all who see them. That at Gunnersbury is surrounded by Impatiens Noli Me Tangere, a giant annual of remarkably rapid growth; it forms quite a miniature forest of leaves and blossoms. Within, all is a blaze of blossom. The beds are full of showy things, such as Godetias, Lupines, Love-in-a-Mist, Chinese and Indian Pinks, Coreopsis, Mallow, Chrysanthemums, Scarlet Flax, and many more; while the chinks in the stone paved paths are flooded with drifts of dwarf white Alyssum, and Mignonette loads the air with fragrance.

The busy gardener has no time to heed the weather; moments are precious in March; work is pressing and brooks no delay. There are, among other things, Carnations to plant. The Carnations are layered in August, potted up in October, and kept in a garden frame all the winter through. really believe if the Border Carnation were not such a delightful flower (when, of course, it would not be itself) I should give up growing it and turn my attention to the Perpetual-flowering varieties instead, for they bloom even out of doors throughout a long period. If one analyses the value of the Border Carnation the result is very disappointing. Fancy analysing the value of the Carnation! Why not parse it too, I hear some cynical enthusiast cry! Not that I ever do really go so far, because if I did I should certainly not grow them. For just think of it! One grows the plants for at least eleven months of the year-in fact, rather more-that their flowers may be enjoyed for a few weeks, and even the best of plants, for some reason known only to themselves, may refuse to flower. It is true that they are not unpleasant to look upon during those eleven months, but then, if one comes to that, neither is a Daisy. can imagine the look of scorn and the curl of the lip with which some true florist (Mr. James Douglas, of Bookham, for instance) would regard my words,

should he chance to read them, and the gusto with which he would hurl words of wrath at my offending head for daring even to attempt to compare the perfectly formed and beautifully rounded, smooth petals of the Border Carnation with the ragged, saw-like edge and (perhaps) graceless bloom of the Perpetual-blooming sorts. But then the artificial standard set up by the florist does not appeal to me, and I see just as much beauty in one flower as in the other.

March is the month in which to plant out Border Carnations that have passed the winter in flower pots. Carnations that are not to pass the winter in flower pots ought to be put out where they are to bloom in September or early October. It is unwise to disturb the roots much as late as March, and the disturbance of roots occasioned by lifting plants from the open border is great. The Carnation likes a soil that is well drained, one that does not remain wet, for if it is wet, it is also cold. It loves also a sunny spot. Like most other favourite garden plants, it will flourish in ordinary soil that has been well dug and moderately manured. Those who wish to know more about the Carnations, and to plant an up-to-date selection of varieties, will do well to turn to the chapter devoted to these flowers.

Growing Carnations from seed is quite one of the most delightful hobbies the amateur gardener can take up; it has many advantages over the method of growing Carnations from layers. Those

who do not care to go to the trouble of sowing seed and growing plants during the summer monthsalthough if this were practised it would be a real pleasure instead of a trouble—may, if they wish, buy seedling plants in the autumn; there is this fact to consider, however, that the plants will cost 3s. 6d. a dozen, whereas a 2s. 6d. packet of seed will give fifty or sixty plants. Thus, everything is in favour of buying the seed. Those who have a greenhouse will be well advised to sow the seed in January or February. Those not so fortunate will have to wait until March; yet by the autumn they will have quite satisfactory plants, even if not quite as big as those raised in the greenhouse. I have already referred to Carnation growing from seed, but may now give a few further details.

The best plan is to sow them in boxes filled with light, sandy, sifted soil, placing them in a shady spot and covering with glass until germination takes place; the glass is then removed. As soon as the plants are big enough to take hold of, they may be put out 3 or 4 inches apart in other boxes, or they may be transplanted 12 inches apart in a border that has been well dug, and in which a fair amount of sand has been mixed. If the latter plan is adopted the plants may remain there until the end of September; they may then be put out where they are to flower, and should be planted about 20 inches apart. If the seedlings are transplanted into boxes they will have to be put out into the bed later on—that is to

say, before they begin to crowd each other. All this sounds delightfully simple, and so, in fact, it is. The great advantage of seedling Carnations over those from layers is that they provide at least ten times as many flowers even under quite ordinary cultivation.

Most people sow Sweet Peas in March, and if one does not sow them in February, there is no better month for the work. Those who have not tried growing them in tubs or large flower pots (10 to 12 inches in diameter) should do so, for they thrive well grown in this fashion, and when they are in bloom one can place them wherever they are seen to the best advantage. Twelve seeds in a tub 12 to 14 inches wide are sufficient. It may be necessary to remove a few of the seedlings, but I have found that fewer than ten plants do not make a satisfactory display under ordinary cultivation.

There are various devices for hastening the germination of Sweet Pea seed; the simplest is to chip off a little of the outer covering with a knife, taking care not to damage the growing point of the seed in doing so. Soaking them for a few hours in water softens the seed and enables it to germinate more quickly. Some have very hard skins and need help of this kind.

Ornamental Gourds are plants well worth growing, and the fruits are most picturesque. Familiar sorts are the Bottle Gourd, Turk's Cap, Pear shaped, Orange Gourd, and there are others that

faithfully resemble certain common objects. Ornamental Gourds are useful for training up poles, and they make a unique pergola; the fruits being heavy hang down and give a bizarre and attractive effect. The burden of this is that March is the month in which to sow the seeds. They are treated like those of Cucumber or Melon—sown singly in small pots in the greenhouse. The plants must not be planted out of doors until the end of May.

Lawns from seed form my next theme. I might include also lawns from turves, for both these operations, I suppose I ought to say, since that is the correct gardening term, although it seems to me to savour somewhat of the hospital, are preferably carried out towards the end of this month. Ground well dug and cleared of weeds is the first essential towards making a successful lawn; next in value comes a fine tilth-I wonder if a gardening dictionary that gave the English significance of technical terms would command a ready sale?—then, as the hackneyed saying has it, "last but by no means least" comes the question of seed. There is only one word of advice to give in this connexion: buy good seed. I should be justified in prophesying all sorts of evils contingent upon the sowing of cheap grass seed; for have I not spent many weary hours, hours when my back ached again, in picking out weeds from a lawn sown with cheap and nasty grass seed? My only consolation is that I was not guilty of sowing it. What kind of seed should we sow?

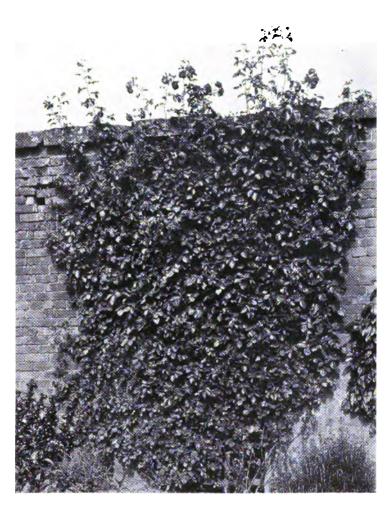
Seedsmen will supply various preparations suited to special circumstances and situations, and it is wise to give the seedsman full particulars of the nature of the ground and its situation, whether sunny or shady, and what not. Some people object to the presence of clover on a lawn, and a specialist would tell you, I believe, that it should never be there. If you dislike it, buy seed that does not contain it. On a lawn used only as a lawn I rather like it; it is wonderfully green in the summer and gives a dense close sward. But in my garden, at any rate, parts of the lawn where clover is abundant get bare during the winter and then the lawn looks patchy. Warm spring rains and congenial sunshine soon put matters right again.

One cannot take too much trouble with the preparation of the ground, for a lawn may have to last a lifetime. It should be dug many times during the winter, and all weeds and strange roots be religiously dug out. With this continued attention it ought to be clean by the end of March. About the middle of March the surface is forked over, all lumps being broken down, and finally the rake is passed over so as to provide a suitable seed "bed." The latter is not obtained by raking once or even twice; it should be done often to ensure as fine a surface soil as possible; each time the roller should follow the rake. One is often counselled to choose a fine day for this and a wet day for that gardening work, but in the matter of sowing grass seed I really must insist on

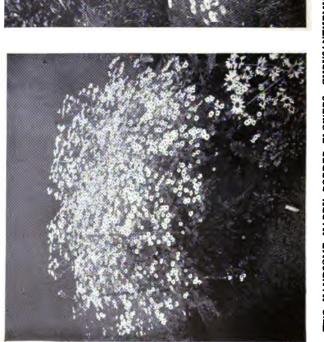
a calm day being chosen. Grass seed is very light and easily blown away; if sown on a windy day much may be wasted. It is necessary to sow from north to south and from east to west, so that the whole surface may be evenly covered, and I need scarcely add that sowing is done broadcast with the hand.

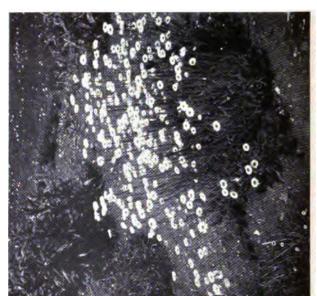
"How much seed shall we sow?" is a question often asked. Well, it is far better to sow too much than too little. One can scarcely have the lawn too thick. Messrs. Sutton and Sons advise  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel of seed for a plot of ground 100 feet long by 50 feet wide; I acre needs from 3 to 4 bushels of seed. Worms are a frequent source of worry on newly sown lawns, and the only thing to do to minimise the damage is to keep the surface firm and continually use the roller. In fact, as soon as the grass begins to sprout constant rolling is important, otherwise a level, firm lawn will not be obtained.

And the birds—how shall we keep them away? This is a big problem, yet it has a very simple solution. Nothing is more effective, cheaper, or more easily applied than black thread stretched tightly across the sown ground. Little pegs are stuck in here and there to which the thread is attached. The thread must not be more than I inch or 2 inches above the ground or the birds will get underneath it; the more thread one uses the more effective is this plan likely to be. The question of first cutting the lawn is an important



ROSE GRUSS AN TEPLITZ COVERING A WALL NINE FEET HIGH.





TWO HANDSOME HARDY BORDER FLOWERS, CHRYSANTHEMUM PRABALTUM (ON THE LEFT), HELIPTERUM ROSEUM (ON THE RIGHT).

one. A sharp scythe is the best tool to use, but as probably no amateur gardener knows how to handle it, he may use a pair of garden shears or a mowing machine that is really sharp, and cuts, not drags, the grass.

Moss on lawns is a frequent source of trouble; its presence indicates either the need of drainage or that the soil is poor; the latter is more often the cause. Draining the lawn is a serious matter, and one should be quite sure that this is the only remedy before undertaking it. If the presence of moss is due to poverty of the soil, the remedy is a far simpler one; obviously the first thing to do is to remove the moss (this is best accomplished by raking it out with an ordinary iron rake) and then to top dress the lawn with a soil mixture prepared in the proportion of one of lime to four of sifted soil. When in the course of a few days the soil has settled, fresh grass seed should be sown.

There are certain bulbs which, although most of them may be quite safely planted in the autumn, are very generally planted in March. They comprise many useful autumn flowers, amongst which are Tiger Lilies, the beautiful Japanese Lilium speciosum and its several variously coloured varieties, Lilium auratum (the Golden-rayed Lily), Hyacinthus candicans, and perhaps most important of all Gladioli. It is astonishing how very few amateurs grow Lilies, yet most of them, all those commonly grown, are hardy; they are perfectly beautiful

flowers and quite invaluable. All my Lilies are left in the ground throughout the winter. I only disturb them when the bulbs have become crowded and have not room enough in which to grow.

One of the chief aids to success in growing Lilies is to leave them alone once they are planted. They soon make splendid clumps. Nearly all Lilies will succeed in ordinary garden soil if this is well dug, and sand is freely mixed with it. Each bulb should also rest on sand when planted. If the soil is at all cold or heavy the bulbs are liable to decay, and the presence of sand tends to prevent this. All Lilies are the better for a little shelter to the tender growths which, when the bulbs are established, often show through the ground quite early in the year. For this reason it is wise to plant them among perennial plants and shrubs. It is a good plan to plant some such dwarf growing thing as Sedum or Saxifrage above the bulbs. While this gives a yield of flowers before the Lilies open, it also acts as a protection in springtime.

Those who do not possess a greenhouse must not think that they are debarred from growing half hardy annuals, for they may all be sown outdoors towards the end of March or early in April instead of in February under glass, as is the usual thing to do: they will make just as good plants; the only difference is that they will bloom later.

#### CHAPTER XXXIV

#### HARDY PERENNIALS FOR THE FLOWER BORDER

One of the secrets of success in growing hardy flowers is to leave them alone.

A GARDEN that is planted chiefly with hardy border flowers-herbaceous perennials, as they are commonly called—is certain to give much satisfaction if the plants are well-grown, and great pleasure if they are carefully disposed. Those old-fashioned cottage gardens, that everyone admires and many now try to imitate, owe their charm largely to the presence of well-grown perennials. These are undisturbed from year to year, and develop into splendid clumps that dispose themselves so naturally and with so much grace that an occasional clashing of colours may be forgiven. The secrets of success in the cultivation of hardy border flowers are to plant them well, arrange them with care, and leave them alone—and the last of these injunctions is not the least in point of value. When a plant outgrows its allotted space it may be taken up and divided, the outside pieces alone being replanted. The following table gives a selection of the best hardy border plants that will blossom every season for years, if well planted in good soil in the first place.

BORDER	
2	
8	
⊒×	
FLOWER	
THE	
Ė	
Ř	
FOR	
νί	
<b>PERENNIALS</b>	
Z	
RE	
7	
HARDY	
H	
_	

Popular Name.	Botanical Name.	Best Varieties.	Colour.	Height in feet.	Season of Blooming.	Remarks.
Sneezewort	Achillea Ptarmica	The Pearl	white	п	July and Aug.	2 July and Aug. A free flowering, loose growing plant, with white double
Monkshood	Aconitum		blue	4-5	2	A useful border plant; the
Italian Alkanet	Anchusa italica	Dropmore variety bright blue Opel	bright blue light blue	mm	June and July	Two invaluable blue-flowered plants; grow quickly; good
Japanese	Anemone	Honorine Joubert	white	3-4	Aug. and	Most beautiful flowers of late
anomony	TO TOO TO	Lady Ardilaun Queen Charlotte	white pink	3	nd	Thrive in shade. Dislike being disturble. The double
						are not so attractive as the single sorts named. The Pasque flower (Pulsatilla)
St. Bruno's Lily	Anthericum	msjus	white	"	May	and Snowdrop Anemone (sylvestris) are two other beautiful Anemones. An attractive little plant.
Rocky Mountain	liliastrum Aquilegia		blue	1	•	In addition to these three
Golden Columbine Aquilegia	Aquilegia		golden	75	May and June	species there are numerous named and un-named forms
Siberian Columbine	Aquil		soft blue	<b>H</b>	May	seed in May, outdoors, for next year's bloom. Thrive
-	-	_		_		well in shade.

Thrift or Sea Pink   Armeria	Armeria maritima	laucheans	rose	-44	•un [	Makes a charming edging, especially if associated with white Pinka. Easily increased by division in early
Giant Asphodel	Asphodelus luteus		yellow	W	late Spring and early Summer	Autumn. A neglected though handsome plant that remains long in bloom. Easily grown.
Michaelmas Daisy Aster acris or Starwort Aster amel	Aster acris Aster amellus	Bessarabicus	lilac purple violet	n n	late Aug. and Sept.	Thrives in grass. Bears small flowers very freely. Has large handsome blooms. One of the showiest of
	:	Distinction	lilac rose	и	:	all. Very attractive.
		Framfieldi	purpleblue	æ	late Sept. and	late Sept. and A bold, showy sort.
	Aster Aster cordifolius Aster	Perry's Favourite Coombefishacre elegans Edwin Beckett	rose red flesh lilac lavender	u   44	ger : : :	Of distinct colouring. Very free blooming. Smothered with small flowers. A handsome new variety.
	Aster ericoides	Sensation	white	ω .	late Sept. and Oct.	late Sept. and Very pretty. Profusion of Small bloom.
	Aster lacvis Aster	formosissimus lilac rose Mrs. S. T. Wright rose purple	white lilac rose rose purple	4 44	Sept.	flowers. A bold, handsome sort. A striking variety of rich, dis-
	Aster Novi-Belgii Captivation	Mrs. J. F. Rayner Captivation	rose crimson blush pink	n w	late Sept. and Oct. Sept.	Unct cotour. One of the most noteworthy of all. A very pretty sort, with fairly large blooms.

HARDY PERENNIALS FOR THE FLOWER BORDER-(Continued)

Popular Name.	Botanical Name.	Best Varieties.	Colour.	Height in feet.	Season of Blooming.	Remarks.
Michaelmas Daisy	Michaelmas Daisy Aster Novi-Belgii Edna Mercia	Edna Mercia	rose red	65	Sept.	One of the best of the newer
TO MINISTER TO	•	Elsie Perry	rose pink	6		A beautiful pink Michaelmas
	66 68	Fairfield	white	۲,	2	A free growing, handsome
		Perry's Pink	rose pink	3-4	:	variety. Perhaps the best of all the so-called pink Michaelmas
		Robert Parker	light	LO.	:	Daisies. One of the finest of the taller
		Top Sawyer William Marshall	lilac blue mauve	410	late Sept. and	A favourite and attractive sort. A fine tall-growing variety.
	Aster vimineus	Delight	white	60	Sept.	A graceful plant, smothered
		Prince Charming	white	m	70	In small blooms.  Very free and pretty.
Goal's Beard	Astilbe Davidi		crimson purple	\$	July and Aug.	July and Aug.  A handsome plant, introduced from China a few years ago. Valuable for border, wild garden, or streamside.
Plume Poppy	Bocconia cordata		creamy white	٧,	June and July	June and July A particularly elegant plant, with large, attractive foliage and ninner of green-colours.
False Starwort	Boltonia asteroides		flesh	n	Sept	ed flowers. A vigorous, free-flowering, easily-grown plant; valu-

Broad-leaved Bellfower	Campanula latifolia	macrantha	purple 3-4	Ĭ	July	A handsome border plant. This and the other Bell-flowers named like a par-
Peach-leaved	Campanula		blue	7	June and July	June and July An invaluable plant.
Rampion Belifiower	Campanula rapunculoides	alba grandiflora major	white blue	**	* :	Has large pure white flowers. An improved variety of a British wild flower. Very
Canterbary Bell	Campanula Medium	(May be had in mixed colours.)		-ta	July	accommodating. Seed is sown in May and June, outdoors, to produce plants
Giant Knapweed	Centaures		yellow	4	July and Aug.	July and Aug. An easily grown and note-
Red Valerian	Centranthus		red	"	June and July	June and July A showy and very accommo-
Shell Flower Sharta or Ox-Eye Daisies	raber Chelone glabra Chrysanthemum maximum	King Edward	pink white		Aug. July and Aug.	2—3 Aug. A graceful plant. 2—3 July and Aug. Invaluable border flowers, soon forming fine clumps.
Gonfan Chrosen		Mrs. Charles Lowthian Bell	white	₹,	late June and July	Showy and good for cutting.
themums		Champ d'Or	yellow	. "	S S S	invaluable flowers; they will bloom from late August until
		9	white crimson	# j	Sept. and	November, and there are now innumerable varieties.
	-		pink golden	<b>4</b> W	Sept.	given here. They are easily raised from cuttings in
		Le Pactole	bronze and yellow	£	3-4 late Sept. and Oct.	spring. Inc pants are put out in early May in well-dug soil.

-(Continued)	Remarks.	These are two most charming plants for the border. The flowers are produced on tall slender stems.  A handsome and invaluable border plant. A vigorous and striking plant, bearing large panicles of white blossom. Makes a fine bed. A charming Daisy, quite one of the prettiest of all. Rob Roy is a good bright red.	These are species or wild types of Delphinium, and, al- though somewhat neglected in favour of garden varieties, are very beautiful.
BORDER-	Season of Blooming.	Sept. and Oct.  " Sept. Aug. and Sept. Sept. Sept. Inte Summer " July and Aug. June and July Spring and early Summer	3 June and July 14 June and July
OWER	Height in feet.	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	3 4 4
THE FL	Colour.	lilac rose reddish crimson orange and red shades deep yellow deep rose scarlet red white white yellow white	light blue scarlet orange red
HARDY PERENNIALS FOR THE FLOWER BORDER—(Continues)	Best Varieties.	Mme. Marie Masse Crimson Marie Masse Merstham Jewel Polly Rabbie Burns Wells' Scarlet	
HARDY PERI	Botanical Name.	Cimicifuga racemosa Cimicifuga simplex Coreopsis grandiflora Crambe cordifolia Bellis perennis	Delphinium Belladonna Delphinium cardinale Delphinium
	Popular Name.	Garden Chrysan- themums Black Snakeroot Tickseed Ornamental Seakale	Larkspar

	Delphinium sulphureum		sulphur	m	July	Several nurserymen now make a speciality of Delphiniums, and each has his own special varieties. The following are a few of the best: King of Delphiniums
Pinks	Dianthus plumarius	Many varieties		·····		(deep blue), Fersumon (light blue), Sir George Newnes (light and darker blue), True Blue (deep blue), Dake of Connaught (blue and deep rose shades), Lilacina (light lilac - rose shades).  The Alpine Pinks are valuable chiefly for the rock garden. Among Border Pinks Mrs. Sinkins, Anne Boleyn, Her Majesty, Ernest Ladhams, and Snowflake are beautiful sorts. The garden or seedling Pinks, very free, with
Burning Bush	Dictamnus		reddish	8	Summer	tall stems, and flowers in many colours, are very showy. Pinks may be increased by dividing the tufts in early October.  An old-fashioned border flower
Globe Thistle Willow Herb	Fraxinella Echinops Ritro Epilobium		bluish rose	4-5	July July and	that is well worth growing. A distinct and attractive plant. A graceful British (wild)
Fleabane	Erigeron speciosus	superpus	lilac purple	m	August	plant; very nandsome. An easily grown plant, with Aster-like flowers.

HARDY PERENNIALS FOR THE FLOWER BORDER-(Continued)

Remarks.

Season of Blooming

Height in feet

Colour.

Best Varieties.

Botanical Name.

Popular Name.

TH	HE IDEA	AL G	ARDE	N		
Particularly handsome. With handsome leaves and flowers; thrives in shade.	indisp ush, i red in	flecting. Perhaps the finest of the Gentians. Likes a deep,	most soil.  The easiest of all Gentians to grow. Suitable for shady border.	bright red 2 June-August Essilygrown; showy, and free and continuous blooming.	improved form, Indispensable. Covered with a profusion of small white flowers; if undisturbed, soon	iorns a snail ousn. I here is a double flowered variety. Remarkably handsome and showy.
July ". August	July	May	July and August	June-August May and June	July	July and August
e 🚡 🗓	I I	-40	1 2	" <u>[</u>	m	•
glistening blue lilac purple	crimson and yellow lilac and white	blue	purple blue 1—2 purple blue 2	bright red orange red	white	bright
superbum . grandiflora	Hartlandi			grandiflorum	•	magnificum
Eryngium oliverianum Funkia ovata Funkia	subcordata Gaillardia grandiflora Galega officinalis	Gentiana acaulis	Gentiana Andrewai Gentiana	Geum Coccineum grandiflorum Geum Heldreichi splendens	Gypeophila paniculata	Helenium pumilum
Sea Holly Plantain Lily Corfu Lily	Blanket Flower Goat's Rue	Gentianella	The Closed Gentian Willow Gentian	Scarlet Avens	Chalk Plant	Specewort

	Helenium autumnale	grandiflorum	yellow	چ	5-6 September	Vigorous and showy at back of border.
		striatum	yellow and 4—5 reddish	<u>1</u>	2	Vigorous and free.
Sunflower	Helianthus		light	5-6	Ang. and	The Sunflowers are tall, vig-
	Helianthus	Miss Mellish	deep yellow	9	dy :	in various shades of yellow,
Willow-leaved	Helianthus mollis Helianthus		yellow	t <sub>o</sub>	Sept. and	blooming in late summer and early autumn. Very
Sunflower	orgyalis		•		Ö	handsome. Easily grown. Mollis has beautiful grey-
Christmas Rose	Helleborus niger maximus	maximus	white	Ť	Nov. and	green downy leaves. Thrives best in cool and par-
				,	Dec	tially shaded spot.
Lenten Rose	Helleborus	Gertrade Jekyll	white	<u> </u>	Feb. and	Lenten Roses are very delight-
	orientalis				March	ful early in the year, usually
	:		DITTED		:	peginning to proom in Jan-
	Hellahome "		rose purple 1-2		2	uary. Incre are many
	olympicus	au rodina	3		2	partial shade.
Day Lily	Hemerocallis	major	yellow	n	Jane	The Day Lilies are old fav-
	flava		:			
	Hemerocallis	I bunbergi	rich yellow	m	•	border. There are many
	Hemerocallis	major	orange	<u></u>	•	good varieties.
Alum Root	Heuchera	gracillima	rose red	n	May and	Heuchera is an old garden
	brizoldes				Jane	favourite, and many new
	* "	<u>e</u>	pink	77		and improved sorts are now
-	Henchera		bright red	(1	2	to be had. They grow well
	Heuchera	splendens	re Per	17	2	in ordinary soil and produce
-	sangames a					their small nowers on
						siender stems in great pro-
-	_	_	_	-	-	TICHET

	HARDY PERE	HARDY PERENNIALS FOR THE FLOWER BORDER—(Continued)	THE FL	OWER	BORDER-	-(Continued)
Popular Name.	Botanical Name.	Best Varieties.	Colour.	Height in feet.	Season of Bloeming.	Remarks
Evergreen Candytuft Inula Irises	Iberis garrexiana sempervirens Iberis correaciolia Snowflake Inula royleana Inula royleana		white white deep yellow deep yellow		April and May July ",	Form handsome tufts, smothered in bloom; valuable for front of border.  Showy composite flowers of rich colours.  Earliest of all Irises are the small bulbous kinds, e.g. reticulata, Krelagei, persica, Histrio, Danfordiae. They thrive best in a warm, welldrained border at the foot of a south wall; in such a position they bloom in winter. The Spanish Irises that bloom in June and the English Irises in July are also bulbous kinds, easily grown in ordinary soil. Among the Flag Irises are many exquisite named sorts. There are no fairer flowers in June. The Japanese Irises are the most gorgeous of all metersides.
Torch Lily, or Red Hot Poker	Kniphofia aloides maxima	maxima	orange red	S	August	The Red Hot Pokers are
	Kniphofia ", caulescens	nobilis	orange red	<b>v</b> +	July and Aug.	summer and carly autumn. There are now many fine new forms. Mulch with

manure in spring and pro- tect with bracken in very cold weather.	If trained over rough stakes in the border, these make handsome masses of bloom, and last well in flower.  A slender and beautiful plant unworthily neglected.  A distinct and handsome plant; arely seen.  A distinct and choice plant with slender stems.	A very beautiful, low tufted plant, suitable for front of border.  A beautiful early autumn plant with bronze-red leaves and stems, and scarlet flowers. Roots should be taken up in autumn and kept in soil in greenhouse during winter.	The Lupines are charming old-fashioned flowers. Seed of a good strain will provide plants with variously coloured flowers.
August June August	July and August " Aug. and Sept. June and July ",	May and June Aug. and Sept.	June " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "
£ 1 3 2 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	3 4 6	ripa en	<b>ო</b> ოოო
coral light yellow light red tipped with primrose light	crimson white reddish reddish purple deep yellow blue	deep blue	blue and white white purple rose pink
Lemon Queen	White Pearl	Heavenly Blue Queen Victoria	Foxii albus Purple King roseus
Kniphofia corallina Kniphofia Kniphofia Tuckii Kniphofia excelsa	Lathyrus Lathyrus Liatris Liatris Pycnostachys Linaria dalmatica	Lithospermum Heavenly Blue prostratum Lobelia cardinalis Queen Victoria	Lupinus polyphyllus ,, ,,
	Everlasting Pea Blazing Star Toed Flax	Gromwell Scarlet Lobelia	Lapine

	HARDY PERENNIALS	ENNIALS FOR		COWE	THE FLOWER BORDER—(Continued)	—(Continued)	200
Popular Name.	Betanical Name.	Best Varieties.	Colour.	Height in feet.	Season of Blooming.	Remarks.	•
Tree Lupine	Lupinus arboreus Snow Queen	Snow Queen luteus	white yellow	**	June and July	June and July Tree Lupines are very hand- some, quickly forming large	
Campion	Lychnis		scarlet	2-3	•	An old favourite; easily	1
	Lychnis haageana		various	Ĩ	2	With large, handsome flowers of various rich shades of red	ПE
Loosestrile	Lythrum	roseum	1066	<u>1</u>	June	and orange.  Prefers moist soil, most suit-	ID.
Bergamot	Monarda didyma	Cembri	bright red	77	July and	An improved form of the old	LA
Forget-me-not	Myosotis dissitiflora	Sourier	blue	-	Aug. May	Bergamot. Agood bee plant. Valuable in early summer, especially when allowed to	L
Evening Primrose	CEnothe CEnothe		yellow deep yellow	ro a	June and July	seed itself.  The Evening Primroses are exquisite flowers, mostly	AKL
	Enothera speciosa	1	white	"	2	rragrant, especially in the evening. Some of them seed freely.	EN
Chinese Paeonies	Paconia albiflora	Attraction Dorothy	white rose pink		: :	The Chinese Paconies, varie-	
		Dreadnought Iceberg	crimson white		: : :	the most valuable of all, and	
		Jenny Lind	light pink		: :	ricties are now in commerce,	
	: :	The Moor	deeb		::	recryman baving	
	:	Vestalis	white		:		

			Double.				nalis), which blooms in May,	
	2	:	Agnes Barr	blush rose		:	is still deservedly popular.	
	. :	:	Couranne d'Or	creamy		:		
,_ <del>_</del>				white				
	:	2	Clencerte	Drimmer and		*		
		1	Cenerie	white and		;		
	:	•		yellow		•		
	*	:	Faust	pink		:		
	:	:	Gloire de	primrose		:		•
			Boskoep	and pink				
	:	:	Her Majesty	1066		:		•
	:	2	Louis Van Houtte	crimson		:		
	:	2	Marie Lemoine	creamy		:		_
				white				-
tal Poppy	Papaver		Mrs. Perry	apricot	6	Jape	The Giant Perennial Poppies	•
	•	orientale			,		are unsurpassed for bold	-
	:	:	Princess Ena	deeb	•	•	effect and rich colours dur-	_
				selmon			ing June. There are now	_
	:	=	Royal Scarlet	scarlet	m	:	many fascinating varieties.	
	:	:	Trilby	scarlet	~	•		••
	2		Goliath	scarlet	· 67	•		
rtemon	Pentstemon	g	Newbury Green	scarlet	, ca	Julyand Aug.	Julyand Aug. A graceful border plant.	
	•		Myddelton Gem	roge	(1		A new and very attractive	_
						:	sort. Very free.	
	:		Southgate Gem	crimson	ď	2	Another new and beautiful	
			)				sort	
							The varieties of large flowered	
							Pentstemons are innumer-	
							able; they are invaluable	
							for late summer and autumn.	
							Many new sorts are vigorous,	
							4 feet high, and have large	
	_	-	_	_	_	_	blooms. Good sorts are	•

	HARDY PERENNIALS	ENNIALS FOR	THE	FLOWER	BORDER—(Continued)	(Continued)
Popular Name.	Botanical Name.	Best Varieties.	Colour.	Height in feet.	Season of Blooming.	Remarks,
Pentstemon	Pentstemon	Southgate Gem	crimson	м	July and Aug.	Paul Cambon (violet shade), Paul Pfitzer (crimson rose).
						Satin Rose (white and rose), Jane Dieulafoy (white and pink), Mrs. Forbes (crimson), Countess of Hone-
Early Phlox	Phlox	Lady Musgrave	lilac and	**	June and July	toun (rose). The early summer Phloxes
	suffruticosa,	Nettie Stuart	white	a	:	are not nearly so widely grown as the later sorts, yet
	:	Wm. Cobham	lilac white	и	:	they give fine heads of bloom a month earlier.
	:	Charles Downie	light crimson	4	•	,
Late Phlox	Phlox decussata	Coquelicot	vermilion	m	Aug. and	In rich, well tilled soil the
			orange red lilac	<b>m</b> m	7	Phloxes are invaluable, making a gorgeous show.
	::	Figuree General Van	white	<i>m</i> •	. 2	Incre are now some mag- nificent varieties in varied shades of colour Mulch
		Helene	white	ກ່ ເຕ		.E 6
	•	Gruppen Konigen	light malmon	m	:	
	: ::	Le Siècle Le Mahdi		m	::	
	::	Paul Bert Sylphide	violet blue			

Cinquefoil	Potentilla	atrosanguinea	crimson	<b>H</b>	July	Dainty free blooming plants, with atrawherry-like flowers.	
	:	hopwoodiana	apricot	4	â	Good double sorts are Wm.	
						(maroon), Golconde (crim- son). Dr. André (vellow).	
Japanese	Primula japonica splendens	splendens	crimson	1	1-2 June and July	Does best in moist, half shady	
Pyrethrum	Pyrethrum	Agnes Mary	bright	1	May	The Pyrethrums are graceful,	
•	roseum	Kelway	pink		,	free-blooming plants that	
	:	Cambria	crimson	1 .	2	are quite invaluable in early	1.
		Golconde	rink		2 :	soil mulch in spring If	71
		James Kelway	bright red	Ĭ		after blooming the plants	L
		Mrs. Bateman	crimson	1		are cut back and kept well	,
	:	Brown			:	watered, they will produce	l.
	:	Princess Marie	white	ï	:	a fair number of flowers in	Г
	;	Arhrodite	white	ĵ			L
		Carl Voet	white	7	. :	•	v
		Lord Rosebery	bright red	17	: 2		W
		Sir J. Miller	crimson	-		-	E
	:	Solfaterre	creamy	1-2	:	/1 <b>\</b>	Λ,
Cone Flower	Rudbeckia	Golden Glow	golden	9	Sept. and	The finest of all the Cone	3
			yellow		ಕ	Flowers; makes a magnifi-	
						the border. Easily grown.	
	Rudbeckia speciosa		orange yellow with	77	July and Aug.	A showy plant, especially in a mass.	
	•	-	black centre		•		
Purple Cone Flower	Rudbeckia purpurea		purple rose with black centre	m	September	A distinct and striking plant.	209
							J

	HARDY PERF	HARDY PERENNIALS FOR THE FLOWER BORDER-(Continued)	THE FL	OWER	BORDER-	-(Continued)
Popular Name.	Botanical Name.	Best Varieties.	Colour.	Height in feet.	Season of Blooming.	Remarks.
Pincushion	Scabiosa		lilac blue	r <del>da</del>	June and July	2\$ June and July Free blooming and attractive
	alba	alba	white	*	Sept.	flowers for cutting.
Stonecrop	annessade manac	mnamdand one	aeni daan	<b>.</b>		makes a handsome tuft, invaluable for front of
Senecio, or	Senecio pulcher		rose purple	*	•	border. A distinct and attractive
Sidalcea	Sidalcea Listeri		pink	m	July and Aug.	Julyand Aug. A tall slender plant of much
Golden Rod	Solidago Shorti		yellow	2	September	A fairly showy autumn
Goat's Beard	Spirace Arancus		creamy	Ţ	June and July	3-5 June and July A most handsome and elegant plant. Should be in every
	Spirace Ulmaria.		white	•••	:	border. It is an admirable waterside plant. A pretty border plant.
Sea Lavender	n. pr. Statice incana	latifolia	lavender blue	23	July and Aug.	Charming border plant. The flower branches may be cut
Meadow Rue	Thelictrum squilegifolium	album	white	4	July	Delightful plant, with bear-tiful leafage and handsome
	Thelictrum flavum	roseum	light rose light yellow	410	::	flowers.  A striking though neglected plant.

foam Flower	Tiarella cordifolia		white	H	Mayand June	I Mayand June A charming little plant of compact growth and free blooming.	
Globe Flower	Trollius europaeus Trollius	giganteus	soft yellow	2-3	: :	The Globe Flowers are amongst the showiest of all the early summer border	
	asiaticus Trollius	Orange Globe	deep	"		flowers. They do well in shade.	
Speedwell	Veronica gentianoides		orange light blue	<u>ŗ</u>	2	A beautiful plant, or elegant slender growth.	
	Veronica subsessilis		deep blue	n	September	September A showy and valuable late blooming border plant.	
Fufted Pansy, or Viola	Viola cornuta	Papilio	violet	-40	all Summer	A beautiful plant, profuse flowering, rather small	
						blooms. A good selection of florists' varieties of Tufted	
				<u></u>		ing: Kitty Bell (lavender),	
						Councillor Waters (purple	
						rose), J. B. Riding (rosy mauve), Primrose Dame	-
						(primrose), Golden Sover-	
						Mott (lilac blue), Blue	
						Gown (mauve blue), Bridal	
						Morn (Mevender blue), Blue Cloud (white and blue).	
						Swan (white), Rosy Morn	•
			•	•	•	(rose purpie).	

Coreopsis grandiflora, 260 Corfu Lily, 262 Cotoneaster, 108 Crambe cordifolia, 260 Cuttings, Roses from, 241 Cypresses, the, 99 Daffodils, 213 Dahlias, Cactus, 171; for the garden, 167; decorative, 170; paeony-flowered, 171; Pompon, 171; single, 171 Daisy, 260 Daisy Bush, 107 Damask Roses, 43 Daphne Mezereum, 106 Day Lilles, 263 December, work in, 224 Delphinium Belladonna, 132 Delphiniums, 260-1 Deutzia, 106 Dianthus plumarius, 261 Dictamnus Fraxinella, 261 Diervilla, 106 Digging, 217 Dogmatism, the ogre of, 1 Dogwood, Spaeth's, 132 Dutch garden, the, 74 Echinops Ritro, 261 Edging plants, 121 Epilobium angustifolium, 261 Eremurus, the, 192 Erigeron speciosus, 261 Eryngium oliverianum, 262 Evergreens for walls, 153 Everlasting Pea, 265 February, work in, 234 Pirethorn, 133 Flax, 265 Fleabane, 261 Flower associations, in spring, 155; in summer, 159; in autumn, 162 Plower beds on lawns, 131 Plower border, the, 112; perennials for, 255 Plowers for the paved garden, 51; fragrant, 57; from seed, 142; October, 79 Plowering trees and shrubs, 103; ahruba, 193

Foam Flower, 271 Forget-me-not, 266 Formal gardening, 76 Forsythia, 108 Fragrant Carnations, 188; flowers, leaves and flowers, 54; Roses, fifty, 37 Fruit trees, pruning, 227; root pruning, 222 Fuchsias, hardy, 107 Funkias, 262 Gaillardia grandiflora, 262 Galega officinalis, 262 Garden, Dutch, 74; flowers for the, 51; hedges in, 98; in October, 79; of Heather, a, 58; the paved, 46; planning, 8; trees in the, 96 Gardening in walls, 63 Gardens, formal, 76 Gentianella, 122, 262 Geranium, the, 77 Geum, 262 Gladioli, 133 Gloaming in the garden, 116 Globe Plowers, 271 Globe Thistle, 261 Goat's Beard, 258, 270 Goat's Rue, 262 Golden Rod, 270 Gourds, ornamental, 249 Greenhouse, Alpine flowers for, 172 Gromwell, 265 Groundsel, 270 Gypsophila paniculata, 262 Heather, garden of, 58 Heaths, the, 60 Hedges, 97 Helenium, 262 Helianthuses, 263 Helleborus, 263 Hemerocallis, 263 Heuchera, 263 Hollyhocks, 145, 161 Honeysuckle, Bush, 106; Winter, Hypericum calycinum, 83: patulum, 82 Iberia, 264 Inula, 264

Irises, 264 Ivies, 153

January, work in, 226 Jasmine, Winter, 149 Jew's Mallow, 148

Kerria japonica, fl. pl., 148 Kniphofia, 264

Larkspurs, 260-1 Lathyrus, 265 Lawn, a beautiful, 13; quantity of seed to sow, 252 Lawns from seed, 250; flower beds on, 131; moss on, 253 Layering Carnations, 186 Lenten Roses, 263 Liatris pycnostachya, 265 Lilac, 92; increasing, 94; Persian, 92; pruning, 94; Rouen, 94
Lilles, 254 Liliums, 165, 190 Linaria dalmatica, 265 Linum perenne, 265 Lithospermum, 122, 265 Lobelia cardinalis, 162, 265 London Pride, 121 Loosestrife, 266 Lupines from seed, 144 Lupins, 265-6 Lychnis, 266 Lythrum Salicaria, 266

Magnolias, the, 103 Maiden's Blush Rose, 43 Manuring Roses, 242 March, work in, 237 Meadow Rue, 270 Meadow Sweet, Double, 270 Mezereon, the, 106 Michaelmas Daisies, 257-8 Mock Orange, the, 107 Monarda didyma, 266 Monkshood, 256 Monthly Rose, the, 44 Moss on lawns, 253 Moss Roses, 43 Musk Rose, 44 Myosotis dissitiflora, 266

November, work in, 215

October flowers, 79; garden in, 79; Roses in, 82; work in, 208 Oenothera, 266 Old-fashioned Roses, 43 Paeonies, Chinese, 266-7 Pansies, 271 Papaver orientale, 267 Passion Flowers, 150 Path, brick or stone, 114; paved, Paths and their margins, 119 Paved garden, the, 46; flowers for, Peach, ornamental, 103 Pearl Bush, the, 149 Pentstemons, 267-8 Perennials for the flower border, 255; from seed, 142 Pergola, 28; placing a, 30 Philadelphus, 107 Phlox, 268 Pincushion Flower, 270 Pines, 101 Pinks, 261 Plantain Lily, 262 Planting, autumn, 217; Roses, 219 Plants, berried, 81; edging, 123; with fragrant leaves, 57 Plum, ornamental, 149 Polygonum, silvery-leaved, 132 Poppies, Oriental, 267 Poppy, Plume, 258 Potentilla, 269 Primrose, Japanese, 269 Primroses, Evening, 266 Primula japonica, 269 Provence Roses, 43 Pruning bush-fruits, 231; Clematis, 127; fruit trees, 227; Roses, 239; shrubs, 108; vines, 233 Pyrethrums, 269 Quince, the Japanese, 149 Red Hot Pokers, 264-5 Rhododendrons, 84 Rock Roses, 193

Rockery border, a, 88

Root-pruning fruit trees, 222

Rosa alba, or Maiden's Blush, 43

Species of Roses, 44

Ross gallica, 44 Rose beds, 33; colour scheme for. 42; designs for, 21; schemes for planting, 41 Rose garden, position of, 20 Rose, Monthly, 44; Musk, 44; weeping, 31 Roses, a chat about, 16; beginners', 25; Chinese, hybrid, 43; climbing, 22; climbing, that blossom at the same time, 35; Damask, 43; fifty fragrant, 37; for walls, 151; from cuttings, 241; ideal soil for, 220; manuring, 242; middle-aged, 24; Moss, 43; old-fashioned, 43; planting, 219; Provence, 43; pruning, 239; pruning on walls, 27; rock, 193; Scotch, 44; species of, 44; wet weather, 39 Rudbeckia, 269 St. Bruno's Lily, 256 St. John's Wort, 82 Saxifrage, Tufted, as edging, 120 Saxifrages, 175 Scabiosa, 270 Scarlet Avens, 262 Scotch Roses, 44 Sea Holly, 193, 262 Sea Lavender, 270 Seakale, ornamental, 260; 88 8 lawn plant, 132 Sedum spectabile, 270 Seed, a garden of flowers from, 142 Seedlings, searching for self-sown, 224 Seeds, sowing, 243 Senecio pulcher, 270 Shell Flower, 259 Shrubbery border, the, 189 Shrubs, flowering, 193; grey-leaved, 80; pruning, 108; with variegated leafage, 80 Sidalcea Listeri, 270 Snakeroot, 260 Sneezewort, 256, 262 Snowball Tree, the, 105 Solidago Shorti, 270 Sowing seeds, 243

Speedwell, 271 Spiraeas, 270 Spring flowers, planting, 224 Starwort, Palse, 258 Statice incana, 270 Stone steps, growing flowers in, 69 Stonecrop, Japanese, 270 Sunflower, 263 Sweet Peas, 195; how to grow, 202; in winter, 199; old-fashioned. 204; sowing, 199, 202, 235; varieties, 206; waved, 205 Tamarisk, 108 Thalictrum, 270 Thorns, the, 108 Thrift, 121, 257 Thyme as an edging, 110 Tiarella cordifolia, 271 Tickseed, 260 Toad Plax, 265 Tree-trunks, the charm of, 80 Trees and shrubs, flowering, 103 Trees in the garden, 96 Trollius, 271 Trumpet Flower, the, 150 Valerian, Red, 259 Veronica, 271 Viburnum, the, 105 Vines, pruning, 233 Violas, 271-2 Walks, curved, 14; straight, 14 Wall beautiful, the brick, 148 Wall, double, 68; dry, 65; dry brick, plants for, 70; garden from seed, 67; low, 68; old, for flowers, 67 Walls, gardening in, 63 Wet weather Roses, 39 Wild flowers worth growing, 136 Willow Herb, the, 138, 261 Winter Sweet, 149 Wistaria, 150 Woodruff, Sweet, 123 Yew, the, 101 Yuccas, 132 Yulan, the, 134

• • .

## 

.

ť.

# 14 DAY USE RETURN TO DESK FROM WHICH BORROWED LOAN DEPT.

This book is due on the last date stamped below, or on the date to which renewed. Renewals only:
Tel. No. 642-3405
Renewals may be made 4 days priod to date due.
Renewed books are subject to immediate recall.

	NOA 5, ( 1910 8 5
REC'D LD	NOV24/0 -11 AM
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
LD21A-60m-8,'70 (N8837s10)476-A-	General Library University of California Berkeley
(N8837810)476—A	Berkeley

